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Sunday comics



7 Arts & Entertainment  
Channel 1 steams ahead



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One more to go

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## Israeli, Palestinian officials: No breakthrough from secret talks

**By DANNA HARMAN**  
Israeli and Palestinian officials gained yesterday they are any closer to reaching an agreement on a withdrawal in the West Bank, despite a series of secret meetings between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Legislative Council speaker Ahmed Qurei. Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, con-

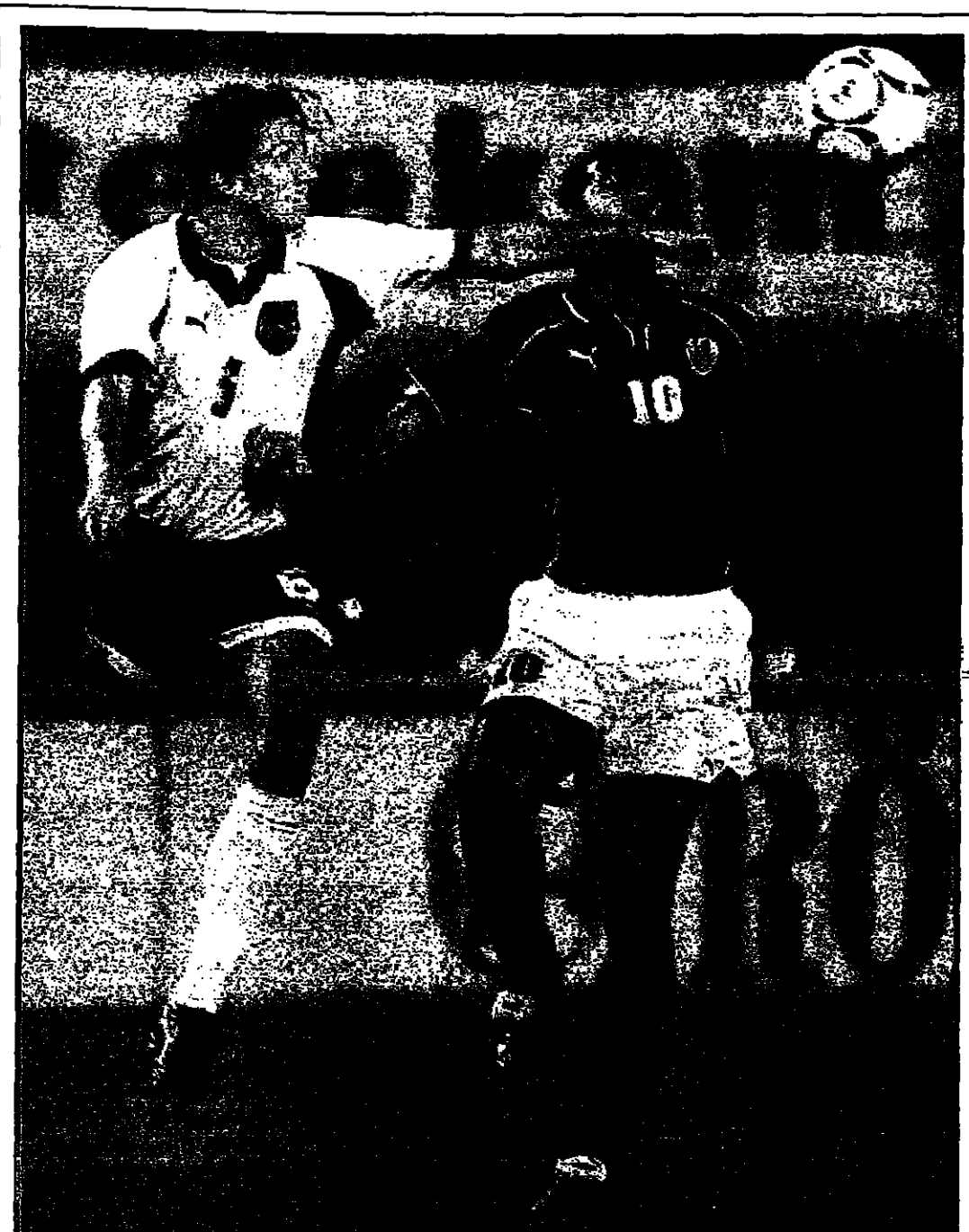
firmed that there had been at least one tete-a-tete between the prime minister and Qurei recently. Media reports said the two had met three times in their attempts to bridge gaps and that Qurei had met seven times with Netanyahu's confidant, attorney Yitzhak Molcho. Several ministers, led by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, were expected to complain at today's cabinet meeting over not being informed of Netanyahu's meeting with Qurei. Netanyahu's spokesman, Aviv Bushinsky, said a draft proposal had been prepared by the two sides after agreement on many of the sticking points was reached. The draft was not signed, and is considered to be simply one of a series of "working documents." The draft consists of a formula by which Israel would fully withdraw from 10 percent of the West Bank, and partially redeploy from

an additional 3%. The additional 3% of land would be earmarked as a nature reserve in which Israel would maintain full security control and Palestinians would not have any building rights. Other key issues that still need to be worked out before an actual deal can be reached include security cooperation, the operation of a Palestinian airport and seaport, the release of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails, the handover of Palestinian prisoners to Israel and Israel's demand that the Palestinian National Council abrogate the parts of the Palestinian National Charter calling for Israel's destruction. A top official at the Prime Minister's Office said that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, who had initially agreed to the draft proposal formula, reneged following a short trip to Egypt last month. "I assume Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak simply talked him out of it. This is not the first time Mubarak has tried to sabotage the process," the official said. In an interview with the *Turkish Daily News* published on Friday, Netanyahu reiterated that a deal was close, but that the Palestinians were stalling. "We are close, but cannot close the final stretch without a political decision on the part of the Palestinians to actually complete the deal, and so far I think they have not made that decision," Netanyahu said.

See **TALKS**, Page 2

## Ashdod husband kills wife, then himself

A 50-year-old Ashdod man shot and killed his wife, wounded his son, and then committed suicide Friday evening. Benny Solomon apparently believed that his wife Rina, 42, was cheating on him, police said, after questioning the Solomons' relatives, friends, and neighbors. The two had had several bitter arguments on the matter, in which Solomon had threatened his wife's life and beaten her. According to police, at about 6:30 Friday evening Solomon fired his pistol at his wife in the family's living room, mortally wounding her. All four of the couple's children were in the living room at the time. Solomon then turned the gun on his oldest son, 22, and shot him in the shoulder. But the son managed to flee the apartment and called for help. The couple's two younger sons, aged 6 and 8, also escaped and ran up to the third floor, where they remained with neighbors until the police came. The 17-year-old daughter locked herself in the bathroom. Sometime after the children had left, Solomon killed himself. Police, MDA crews and firefighters arrived at the scene, broke into the home and found the couple's bodies. Shocked neighbors described the family as quiet. Family members were aware of Solomon's suspicions about his wife. The two are to be buried today. (Lim)



**Israel draws with Austria**  
Ronen Harazi (right) and Austria's Wolfgang Feiersinger battle for the ball in yesterday's European Championship qualifying match in Vienna. Israel drew with Austria 1-1. Report, Page 16 (AP)

## Histadrut strike set to continue

### Talks with teachers go into the night

**By NINA GILBERT and ARYEH DEAN COHEN**  
The Histadrut was expected to renew its general strike in the public sector at 6 a.m. today, barring a breakthrough in the early-morning hours on an agreement with the Treasury for a framework for resolving its wage dispute. It was unclear last night whether the school strike would continue. After midnight, talks broke off, with teachers claiming the Treasury had hardened its stance. This morning, the general strike - which would affect some 300,000 public-sector workers - was set to expand to Na'amat and WIZO day-care centers. The Histadrut spokeswoman said last night that if the strike went ahead there would be disruptions at Ben-Gurion Airport today, but it would not be expanded so as to shut down the airport. Most Airport Authority workers have signed separate labor agreements, but engineers and technicians under Histadrut wage agreements are on strike. The general strike, which was launched on Thursday and suspended over the weekend, was due to close down government offices, post offices, railways, ports, local authority services (including garbage collection), and Kupat Holim Clalit and its clinics. Nurses, administration and maintenance workers in government hospitals would be out. Magen David Adom and government hospital emergency rooms and intensive care would run on a Shabbat schedule. Bezeq, the Israel Electric Corporation and Mekorot workers were also set to strike. There were no reports of progress in talks that resumed last night between Treasury and Histadrut trade union head Shlomo Shani. Kucik was also meeting with the teachers, the Treasury said. "Each side is still entrenched in its demands," the Treasury spokesman said last night. "If the Treasury gives a real wage rise to workers, the country will have to shut down."

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman (Eilat Kishitov)  
The Treasury late last night in a bid to put an end to the teachers' strike, which threatened to keep classes closed for the fifth straight school day today. Descriptions of the atmosphere ranged from optimistic to pessimistic, depending on whom you asked. A spokeswoman for the Secondary School Teachers Association (SSTA) teachers said shortly before midnight that "the Treasury is pessimistic, but we're slightly optimistic" about settling the dispute. "I'm sure the talks will go on for several hours, but I think maybe, just maybe we'll wrap it up early in the morning," the spokeswoman said. "I think that from our standpoint the strike won't be effective anymore after this," she said. "I hope it will end." There was an atmosphere of cautious optimism going into last night's talks, after two-member teams from the Treasury, the Teachers Union and the SSTA met Friday to "narrow down" the areas still unresolved, so as to better handle them last night. Agreement had reportedly already been reached on paying teachers accompanying school trips NIS 250 per day the first year, NIS 400 the second and NIS 500 the third year, and there was also agreement on a 25% pay raise for school principals, two of the main elements in the teachers' demands. This was not finalized with the Treasury but was agreed upon between the teachers and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy. Nonetheless, gaps still remained between the two sides going into the talks. Histadrut Teachers Union chief Avraham Ben-Shabbat told Channel 1 news, just prior to

reopening the talks, that "at the last moment the Treasury began raising difficulties and erased a budget source that would have financed these matters. We will also not leave here without achieving significant achievements for all the teachers; i.e. for those teachers who are homeroom teachers, doubling the percentage of extra pay they get for this; and for those who aren't, doubling the extra training payment they receive; and other matters. If we don't get this, then the school year won't open." Speaking on his way to Jerusalem last night, Secondary Schools Teachers Association chairman Ran Erez said, "We're coming to wrap things up, but we won't do so at any price. If the Treasury doesn't come towards our position, we won't give in." Erez said the Treasury wanted two separate agreements, one that would essentially update the last contract signed with the teachers, appending the areas dealing with school trips and principals' salaries, and another, new agreement that would cover 1997 and '98. "We agreed to this, because the matters regarding the school trips and principals is left over from the agreement we signed in 1994," Erez said. "Then we would have a separate, new agreement." He said the two unions were "going in as a unified front." Ben-Shabbat, before entering the negotiations, said: "I'd like to be optimistic, but I can't just be optimistic based on what I want. The question is what the Finance Ministry will do, and they are unpredictable." "We reached agreements about various matters related to the previous contract with the education minister, and he told us they were acceptable to the Treasury, but unfortunately when we came to get the Treasury's signature on Thursday, they started to raise difficulties. So if these matters are signed with the Treasury as the education minister undertook, this would certainly be progress." He said the Treasury wanted the teachers to sign a new agreement "immediately."

## 'Million Youth March' only draws thousands

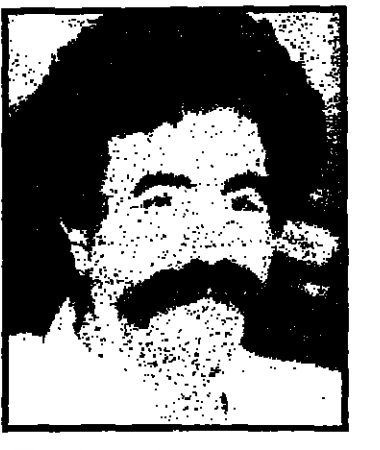
**By MARILYN HENRY**  
NEW YORK - After weeks of virulent and controversy, the "Million Youth March," led by a former official of the Nation of Islam, got off to a quiet start yesterday in Harlem. It was more of a rally than a march, having been limited by a federal court order to a half-dozen blocks in the Manhattan neighborhood. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani had tried to force the march into an alternate site in the Bronx, arguing that it would be a "hate march" and that police would be unable to ensure public safety in congested Harlem. The march also drew strong objections from the Jewish community and mainstream black leaders, who objected to its organizer, Khalid Abdul Muhammad, who has a ferocious history of anti-

semitic and race-baiting speech. "Armed. Dangerous. And filled with hate," said an Anti-Defamation League ad that ran at week's end in local and Jewish newspapers. The youth of Harlem have serious concerns, but they are being exploited by a hate monger, the ADL said. The organizers first had intimidated that more than 1 million young people would attend the march. By week's end, the forecast was 50,000. Crowd estimates were not immediately available yesterday, although early radio reports from the scene indicated that attendance appeared to be lighter than the forecast. "You can't attract the masses with a message of hate," Giuliani said yesterday. The model for yesterday's event was the Nation of Islam's 1995 Million Man March in Washington, which drew hundreds of thousands of black men and youths from across the US. That event, organized by Louis Farrakhan, was noteworthy not simply for the attendance, but for the remarkable community organizing and planning that gave many a sense of mission and pilgrimage. And although Farrakhan is reviled for his antisemitic speech, he is not easy to dismiss as a mere bigot. He also fervently preaches for black responsibility, unity and self-respect. The Harlem rally, by contrast, was thoroughly uncoordinated, according to black community leaders in New York. Instead, it appeared to rely on highly publicized feuds between Muhammad and his detractors - notably Giuliani - rather than on organization, to draw crowds. The rancor escalated on Wednesday, when Muhammad repeated his 1993 tirade, calling Jews "the bloodsuckers of our community." Those remarks, at a New Jersey college, cost Muhammad his post as spokesman for Farrakhan. And unlike Farrakhan, Muhammad does not seem to have a message of self-help for the black community, but relies on fierce and racist tirades. However, when Giuliani tried to block the event, two federal courts said that free speech means the organizer had a right to hold the rally. They also specified that it was imperative for it to be in Harlem, which "is centrally located, and it is the national-international mecca for people of African descent." However, they said that police could confine it to a half-dozen blocks and that it should not exceed four hours.

**Did you remember?**  
Daylight saving time ended last night at midnight, when clocks were moved back one hour.

## Milo, Levy discuss forming joint list

**By MICHAEL YUDELMAN**  
Geshet leader David Levy and Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo met secretly about two weeks ago to discuss forming a list together and running in the next elections. Channel 1's political reporter Yaron Dekel reported on Friday night. The meeting was held in the Kfar Sava residence of MK Yehuda Lankri (Geshet), who arranged it and managed to get Levy and Milo to overcome past tension between them. The three agreed not to reveal their meeting or what they discussed in it. Milo already is negotiating with MK Dan Meridor (Likud) and former chief of staff Lt.-Gen. (res.) Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to join his centrist Atid party. Until now many Likud people scoffed at Milo's ability to harm Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's chances in the elections, noting that Milo would take votes mainly from Labor and the left wing. See **MILU**, Page 2



**Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz** (Eilat Kishitov)  
"We can't do that," he said. "We need to negotiate it first. We have demands. The Treasury has stands. We need to work things out. We might sign it as a temporary contract, without determining its final form. We might do that, but we'll talk about it tonight." See **STRIKE**, Page 2





## NEWS

in brief

## Seven arrested at protests near J'm eatery

Two haredim and five Meretz activists were arrested yesterday during demonstrations by both sides at the Fresco restaurant on Jerusalem's Rehov Hanefi'im.

Haredim, protesting against the restaurant's operating on Shabbat and serving nonkosher food, overturned trash cans in the street and clashed with police.

A haredi man also attacked a Meretz activist, prompting five other Meretz activists to join the fight. *Itim*

## Palestinians attack ambulance, spark clashes

Palestinian residents of the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem threw firebombs and rocks yesterday at an Israeli ambulance and its police escort called to the neighborhood to treat a heart attack patient.

The violence sparked clashes between Palestinians and the policemen and border policemen, who fired rubber bullets. Five policemen and six Palestinians were hurt in the melee, Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said.

Residents of the camp said they were angry when the ambulance was delayed while waiting for its escort before entering the camp. The heart-attack victim died.

Magen David Adom treats Palestinians living under Israeli rule, but will only enter Palestinian areas with a police escort because staffers are often attacked by residents there. *News agencies*

## Hebron settlers protest firebombing

Members of the Jewish community in Hebron protested yesterday evening along the ascent leading to Tel Rumeida after stones and a firebomb were thrown into Tel Rumeida on Friday and yesterday.

Noam Arnon, spokesman of the Hebron Jewish community, said that on Friday Palestinians threw a firebomb onto the road leading up to Tel Rumeida, which is in the Israeli-controlled sector of the city.

There were several instances of stones being thrown throughout yesterday at the same place. No injuries or damage resulted from the firebomb or stones.

"The site where stones and firebombs are thrown runs parallel to the area under the control of the Palestinian Authority," he said. "We demand that the Israeli security forces carry out hot pursuit as stipulated in the Hebron Agreement." *Margot Dudkevitch*

## Court to rule US murder suspect's extradition

The Jerusalem District Court is to rule this morning on whether a teenager wanted for a brutal murder in the US can be extradited. The youth, suspected of murdering an acquaintance in Montgomery County, Maryland, fled to Israel shortly after the murder last summer. He has claimed Israeli citizenship on the grounds that his father was born here. The boy's father, a patent lawyer who is also wanted for allegedly helping his son to escape from the US, recently came to Israel too. *Batsheva Tsur*

## Intelligence: Iran developing spy satellite

Intelligence officials believe Iran is developing a spy satellite as part of its ballistic missile program, Channel 2 reported Friday. The officials reached this conclusion from their analysis of Iranian television's video shots of Iranian ruler Ali Khamenei's recent visit to the missile development plant. Channel 2 said, in the video shots the analysts spotted a satellite launch and what could be the basis for a spy satellite which could cover the entire Middle East including Israel, the TV said.

Iran is widely believed to be trying to obtain a nuclear weapons capability with help from Russia and North Korea, and recently tested a medium-range missile based on North Korean technology. *AP*

## Turkish PM to visit

Turkey's Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz is due to arrive here tomorrow for a two-day official visit.

Yilmaz is to be accompanied by a large business delegation, which is scheduled to participate in a one-day conference with top Israeli industrialists. During the visit, Israel and Turkey will sign an agricultural cooperation agreement.

Yilmaz is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat during his stay. *Donna Harman*

## Mordechai returns from China

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai returned from China on Friday, after stopping en route home in Tashkent in Uzbekistan, where he held a working meeting with the Uzbek defense minister.

The president of Uzbekistan is due to visit Israel in the near future, and in the course of his visit he will tour Israel's military industries and hold discussions on possible channels of cooperation.

On landing, Mordechai met with, and was updated by Chief of General Staff Lt-Gen. Shaul Mofaz and other senior security officials. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

## 22 injured in bus collision

Twenty-two people were injured yesterday when a bus and a car collided at Ma'aleh Levona. Five of the victims were seriously injured.

The victims were taken to hospitals in Ramallah and Nablus. Police are investigating the accident. *Itim*

## ITV introduces new format

Saying that Israel Television seeks to reduce the ratings gap between Channel 1 and Channel 2, IBA head Uri Porat unveiled Channel 1's new prime time schedule on Friday. In order to meet the challenge of its competition, Porat said, ITV will move "for the first time to a permanent weekly schedule of news, current affairs and other programming."

One new show starts tonight: Mira Shalom's talk show Shalom on Sunday. The rest of the schedule starts on October 18. It includes locally made documentaries and dramas, as well as current affairs and talk shows. Imported programming includes documentaries, sitcoms and BBC period drama series such as *Tom Jones*. Porat also announced that from 1999, ITV's Channel 33 would "be like BBC 2" with high-quality arts programming. *Helen Kaye*

## MILO

Continued from Page 1

However, a political alliance with Levy may change the picture. Likud sources admit, since Levy's supporters are mostly from the Likud.

With the possible addition of figures like MK Shlomo Ben-Ami (Labor) and Lipkin-Shahak, it is speculated the new list could repeat the electoral success of Democratic Movement for Change, which won 15 seats in the 1977 elections.

Milo proposed to Meridor and Shahak that before the elections they would hold opinion polls, and the one who has the best chances of being elected prime minister would head the list, with the other two taking their place behind him.

According to Channel 1, Milo made the same offer to Levy, who has not yet given his answer.

It is not yet clear whether Levy, who attacked the government and Netanyahu sharply last week, has decided to burn all his bridges back to the Likud or not.

## Arafat: Redeployment is not close

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The Palestinian Authority's cabinet has praised the US decision to send special envoy Dennis Ross to the region this week, hoping it portends a more active American role in the negotiations with Israel.

But PA Chairman Yasser Arafat told the cabinet, meeting in Hebron on Friday night, that there remain wide gaps between Israel and the Palestinians over the terms for an Israeli redeployment in the West Bank.

He stressed that while Ross's visit is a welcome step, Israel has yet to accept US proposals for the redeployment.

The proposals reportedly specify an Israeli withdrawal from 13 percent of West Bank land, but differences appear to persist over the conditions for land transfers. PA Secretary-General Tayeb Abdul-Rahim said last night that the Palestinians would insist on "complete" Israeli acceptance of the US proposals.

The cabinet said in its statement after the meeting: "The PA appreciates US President Bill Clinton's personal intervention and monitoring of the peace process and its call on Israel to accept the complete US proposal."

It was not immediately clear what the cabinet meant by the US call on Israel, since no such call has been publicly issued. Clinton last week, during telephone conversations, urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat to con-



Surrounded by heavy security, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat waves to well-wishers as he enters a waiting car upon his arrival from Gaza to the West Bank town of Hebron for a Palestinian cabinet meeting on Friday.

clude a West Bank deal.

PA Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Nabil Sha'ath said that the success of

Ross's visit is largely in the hands of Israel, and whether it agrees to accept the US proposals or not.

Most of Friday's session was

concerned with plans to declare a Palestinian state on May 4, 1999.

In a separate development, Palestinian officials said over the

weekend that Arafat would be travelling to New York to address the opening of the UN General Assembly on September 28.

## 18 hurt as Druse clans clash in Mas'ada

By DAVID RUDGE

Eighteen people were hurt — one of them seriously — in clashes between members of two family clans in the Golan Heights Druse village of Mas'ada yesterday.

Police said rioters hurled stones and other objects at one another during the clashes, which were apparently sparked by offensive behavior toward a 15-year-old girl by members of the rival family.

A large force of police, headed by Galilee district commander Avi Tiller, went to the scene, separated the rioters and restored order.

Six people were arrested in connection with the disturbances. A fleet of Magen David Adom ambulances also went to the vil-

lage and treated the injured, who were all later taken to Safed's Rebecca Sieff Hospital.

Dr. Calin Shapira, deputy director of the hospital, said that one of them was found to be suffering from serious head injuries and was later transferred to the neuro-surgical ward at Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

"Another two who were admitted were suffering from moderate injuries and the rest were lightly injured," he said. "Some of them are expected to be released after treatment."

Police remained on duty in the vicinity of the village in case of any fresh outbreaks of violence.

Village leaders and local dignitaries, meanwhile, tried to calm the situation and arrange a *suha*.

## STRIKE

Continued from Page 1

On Friday the two sides met to prepare for last night's meeting.

"After everyone slept a little at night and only two representatives from each side attended, not like the large delegations that attended until now, it was much more to the point, and they were able to isolate all the remaining problem areas," a spokeswoman for the SSTA said Friday.

She said the sides still disagreed on whether a new, overall contract would be signed or the various problematic areas would be addressed separately.

The spokeswoman said the Finance Ministry had some problems with some of the sums agreed upon with Levy.

She said Levy had agreed on the three-year payment arrangement for the school trips. "We'll have to see tomorrow how close we can get," she said.

Treasury officials were trying to reduce the payment to principals to 10%, the spokeswoman for the SSTA said.

As for an overall agreement, she said that if the teachers were forced to sign one, they would demand that if a check of figures over a two-week period indicated that the 1.4% pay increase offered by the Treasury would not be enough to compensate for salary erosion, it could be increased.

"We prefer to discuss this separately, but if we have to sign such an agreement, we want them to give us this," she said.

She described the atmosphere at Friday's talks as "much better, also because there were fewer people and less pressure. They went over all the other problems, so we could focus on the key issues and not go around and around."

She said she expected last night's talks to last through the night.

## TALKS

Continued from Page 1

US Mideast envoy Dennis Ross is scheduled to arrive in Israel Wednesday and meet with Arafat. He will meet with Netanyahu Thursday when the prime minister returns from a brief trip abroad.

United States embassy spokesman Larry Schwartz said Ross will stay in the region for "as long as he feels he is getting something done." In recent visits to the region Ross attempts to move the process forward have been unsuccessful, yet there is some amount of optimism on the part of both sides that this trip may be different.

If Ross does, in fact, manage to narrow the differences remaining between the Israelis and the Palestinians, a summit meeting between Netanyahu, Arafat and US President Bill Clinton Clinton later this month could be in the

cards. Both Netanyahu and Arafat will be in New York at the same time for the opening of the UN General Assembly.

Bar-Ilan said that, even if a deal was not concluded, Netanyahu would be interested in sitting down with Arafat.

"The prime minister has said on several occasions that he would like to meet with Arafat — and has been refused," Bar-Ilan said.

Palestinian secretary-general Tayib Abdul-Rahim told the Voice of Palestine yesterday that as the negotiations were still in tangles, a deal was as elusive as ever and no such meetings were planned.

Abdul-Rahim said that during last week's phone call between Arafat and Clinton, Arafat made it clear that the withdrawal formula that the Israelis proposed was unacceptable. While agreeing, in principle, to the idea of 3% becoming a nature reserve, the Palestinians say they will not accept the Israeli demand for full security control within it.

## Labor warns government of another budget failure

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The Labor Party yesterday warned the government not to present yet another budget that, in its words, would increase unemployment, worsen the recession and tear the nation up from within.

"Stop the slogans and gimmicks and change the distorted and mistaken order of priorities," urged Labor spokesman Yitzhak Rabin.

Rabin called on the government to stop giving in to pressure groups, whose only interest is the continued survival of the coalition and propose a fair distribution of

funds, which would bring hope to the unemployed and increase investments in education and infrastructure.

In another development, sources close to party leader MK Ehud Barak denied rumors that MK Ori Orr would be reinstated to his previous status in the party's Knesset faction, with Barak's unofficial backing.

Orr, one of Barak's closest supporters, had been suspended from all his duties in the faction earlier this summer, after making anti-Sephardi comments in a newspaper interview.

Orr's statements were believed

to have caused Labor irreparable electoral harm, and there were calls in Labor for Orr to resign from political life.

But following Orr's apology meetings and debates with members of the Sephardi community in Labor branches throughout the country, some MKs started talking of "forgiving" him and letting him resume his position as faction coordinator in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

The sources said Barak was not pleased with the moves to reinstate Orr in the faction. They said the faction would decide how to deal with Orr after the Knesset recess.

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סוכן מלאכה





IDF Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz (left) meets South Lebanon Army commander Gen. Antoine Lahad last week to discuss the situation in Lebanon. (IDF Spokesman)

## IAF strikes at Hizbullah targets

By DAVID RUDGE

IAF warplanes struck at Hizbullah targets north of the security zone yesterday afternoon as fighting continued in the region.

The IDF Spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits on the targets in the Jabal Shaffi region and that the planes returned safely to their bases.

Reports from Lebanon said two jets fired a total of four rockets at suspected Hizbullah positions, in what was said to be

the 76th IAF raid on targets in Lebanon since the beginning of the year.

Elsewhere, fighting continued in the security zone with a series of long-range attacks on IDF and South Lebanese Army positions over the weekend.

IDF outposts in the western sector of the zone came under mortar fire on Friday morning and yesterday. Mortars were also fired at IDF and SLA strongholds in the central and eastern sectors.

In one of the incidents, gunmen, believed

to be from Hizbullah also fired light weapons at a SLA position in the northeastern sector of the zone.

There were no casualties in any of the incidents, which prompted return fire from IDF gunners.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring group is due to convene at UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura tomorrow to discuss complaints from Israel and Lebanon over breaches of the understandings during recent exchanges.

Matza returning Rachmilewitz file to panel

## Doctor faulted for not treating patient

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza last week returned the file on Hadassah-University Hospital doctor Prof. Eliezer Rachmilewitz to the ministry committee charged with investigating the complaints against Rachmilewitz by the family of the late Dassy Rabinowitz. The committee decided, by a two to one vote, that the doctor had been guilty of behavior unfitting a physician, but they didn't recommend a punishment.

Matza, reportedly a personal friend of Rachmilewitz, does not have to accept any of the recommendations of the committee, which was comprised of Prof. Manfred Green (head of the Israel Disease Control Center), Dr. Jackie Orr (head of Kaplan Hospital's emergency department), and Haim Goldwater (a lawyer representing Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein). The two physicians voted against Rachmilewitz, stating that the Hadassah doctor's order not to treat her was given with an awareness that it could cause harm to her condition; the lawyer voted in his favor.

According to ministry deputy director-general for information Yair Amikam, Matza was upset that the committee "hadn't done its job," leaving out recommendations for punishment and sorting out other details.



Yehoshua Matza (Brian Heidler)

slowly.

News of Matza's surprise action was leaked to *Ha'aretz*, which published it on Friday. Several weeks ago, Amikam had committed himself to informing the news media immediately when ministry committees investigating doctors' behavior reached conclusions - so that all the facts become clearly known and so the health minister, who is the sole arbiter in such cases, is not suspected of helping doctors he knows personally.

However, Amikam and his spokesman Yoram Malka were unable to carry out this commitment, as Matza had returned the file to the committee without informing either Amikam or Malka.

Matza proposed legislation that would give the sole power to decide complaints against doctors to a professional committee headed by a lawyer; appeal would be through the courts. The bill has passed its first reading in the Knesset, but still has a way to go before becoming law. Amikam said that he expects the three-member committee that handled the Rabinowitz case to present its recommendations about punishment this week.

The Hadassah spokesman declined to comment, saying management would not say anything "until the minister hands down his final decision on the case."

## Poland mulls bill to protect death camps

By MARILYN HENRY

Poland's government has announced it will submit legislation to set up protective zones and improve preservation of Nazi concentration camps in order to help avoid a repeat of the escalating controversies over crosses at Auschwitz.

The bill would give sites scattered around Poland special memorial status and set up management councils, said government spokesman Jaroslaw Sellin. The measure would be sent for parliamentary approval by the end of the year.

"This bill might have solved a lot of the problems at Auschwitz," said Andrzej Sikora, local government prefect for the area around the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. "Today the Auschwitz camp is working as a museum. But it's not a museum, it's a sacred place, a place of killing, and this bill will give it an appropriate status."

A brouhaha over crosses at Auschwitz has delayed what was

to have been a landmark agreement between Poland and an international coalition of Jewish institutions and organizations that was intended to protect the site and institute improvements to benefit the nearby city of Oswiecim.

The coalition, led by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and Yad Vashem, had been scheduled to sign the agreement in July.

The Polish-Jewish agreement was initiated in March 1997, but the formal signing was delayed by a dispute over the presence of religious symbols in the "Field of Ashes."

Those symbols were removed, but a subsequent dispute has arisen over a 6-meter cross that was used in 1979 for the mass conducted nearby by Pope John Paul II.

Only weeks before the July signing, Kalman Sultanik of the World Jewish Congress objected to the papal cross, which in effect stymied the coalition's pact.

Since then, more than 150 crosses have been erected at the site by so-called "radical Catholics" and Polish nationalists.

## 'Hassid' goes on swastika spree

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - Dressed in traditional garb, with a beard and a yarmulke, a "hassid" was nabbed by police in Williamsburg, Brooklyn on Friday after vandalizing the hassidic neighborhood with "swastika" graffiti.

The man, Christopher Maldonado, is Puerto Rican, speaks Yiddish and says he converted to Judaism in 1985, police said. Maldonado, 31, wore a prayer shawl and had a satchel of more

than a dozen Hebrew texts when he was apprehended. However, he lacked the usual hassidic side curls.

According to police, Maldonado went on a week-long swastika spree because he was irritated that a local merchant kicked him out of a candy store.

On Friday alone, Williamsburg residents reported swastikas on street-light poles and in a telephone booth. When Maldonado was arrested, he was drawing a swastika on the wall of a subway platform.

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# Children turned away from hospital CP program

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The parents of a Modi'in boy suffering from mild cerebral palsy are scrambling to find a program for their son after being told he could not attend a special kindergarten at Assaf Harofeh Hospital just two days before he was due to start.

Ellen and Michael Ironi and the parents of four other children barred from the kindergarten for children with mild CP at the hospital, run by Dr. Yitzhak Shantal, showed up there anyway last week. They were told police would be called in to forcibly remove them.

However, an official from the Education Ministry's special education department called the kindergarten and said that if Shantal thought they belonged there, they could stay, but would not be given any of the treatments offered via the ministry. These include occupational therapy, speech therapy and other special educational services, Ironi said.

"Theoretically, what they're telling us is that our children can be babysat and given a sandwich," Ironi said. She vowed to return to the kindergarten and "continue the fight."

The Education Ministry says it received a medical determination

via the Health Ministry that the five children do not need to be in the program.

"We're appalled," Ironi said. "I don't know how they can take five kids and throw them to the dogs. We're going to fight this until they let our kids in."

Ironi said that her son Shai, 4, had been accepted along with 17 others into the program for youngsters who have mild cerebral palsy, but don't need the more intensive treatment offered at other facilities.

"We got an official letter in the middle of August saying he was accepted," said Ironi, who has been trying to find a program for her son for three years.

"Then two days before school was supposed to start we got a phone call from the social worker saying that five children had been picked at random who couldn't participate," she said. As far as we know, the doctor was not consulted, the five names were just chosen at random."

She said hospital officials familiar with their son's case, including Shantal, agree her son and the other youngsters do need this type of program, which according to a hospital spokeswoman is jointly financed by the health and education ministries along with the Beer Ya'acov local authority.



Four of the five children who were denied treatment in a kindergarten program at Assaf Harofeh Hospital for youngsters with mild CP are shown last week with their parents. From left to right: Shai Ironi, Almog Michaeli, Shachar Yehzekel and Ariel Hachmon (Israel Sam)

Hospital authorities refused to allow Shantal to be interviewed. Ironi claims the Education Ministry cut the kindergarten's budget, "and now they're preventing our children from attending." She said she and her husband received a fax this week from the

ministry's special education department saying all the children accepted into the program deserve to have full treatment from the ministry.

However, it predated the day the five children were informed they could not be in the kindergarten.

Education Ministry spokesman Benny Shukrun denied the children had been picked at random, and said the decision was made based solely on medical grounds aimed at finding what is best for the children.

"This is all done based on medical

opinions, we don't decide," he said. "We're pedagogues, not doctors," he added. "The Health Ministry says this child [needs to study there] and the Education Ministry provides the money."

He said the Health Ministry had supplied an authorized doctor's opinion stating that these five children do not need to be in such a program. "We receive instructions from the Health Ministry and it determines what happens in such cases, and [in this case] provided an authorized opinion stating that these children need not be there."

"We told the parents it's no prize or blessing for the child to be in such a kindergarten if they don't need one, and we offered to give them the proper educational frameworks near their homes. We offered them several excellent alternatives," said Shukrun.

Ironi denied this, however, saying the only program she'd been offered, Jerusalem's Elwyn institution — over half an hour's drive away — was not suitable for her child. Shai was there two years ago when he was more disabled.

She said that the local authority "doesn't want my child because he's disabled, and the other kindergartens don't want him because he's not disabled enough."

She said she and the other parents had received no alternative suggestions regarding a place for their children.

A source familiar with the case said Shantal had convinced parents they were being misled by the ministry, adding that he had an interest in having as many pupils as possible in the kindergarten. The source added that Shantal had been reprimanded by Health Ministry officials for his actions.

Health Ministry spokesman Yoram Malka said in response that the Education Ministry alone is responsible for placement in special education facilities. "The ministry did ask us for an opinion regarding whether these children must be in a kindergarten located in a hospital... Based on that opinion, it was determined that five out of the 18 children evaluated do not need to be in such a kindergarten. Those responsible for this matter adopted the opinion and in accordance with this, we assume that proper educational facilities were found for them where they live," he said.

Malka rejected claims that a dispute between the two ministries had led to the situation, and that the decision was "random." "The decision was made after an expert in the field carefully weighed his decision," he said.

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## Iran steps up pressure against Afghan Taleban

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Iran stepped up pressure on Afghanistan's Taleban militia yesterday, warning of possible action as tension mounted between the two states over the fate of Iranians caught up in faction fighting.

State-run Teheran radio, in a commentary that reflected calls in Iranian media for a strike against the Taleban, said Iran had the right under international law to take all necessary action against the Islamic militia which rules most of Afghanistan.

Iran accuses the Taleban of holding at least 10 Iranian diplomats and a journalist who have not been seen since militia fighters captured the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, headquarters of the northern opposition alliance, on August 8.

Iran last week issued a stern warning to the Taleban after its supreme leader, Mullah Mohammed Omar said the diplomats were "probably dead."

Teheran has also asked the UN to investigate the men's fate. "Teheran has tried... to make the [UN] Security Council aware of a situation which can threaten international peace and security," the radio said. "After this process, Iran will have the right under Chapter 7, Article 51 of the UN Charter to take all necessary action in the context of legitimate defense."

The Washington Post reported yesterday that US intelligence analysts had warned the Pentagon and the White House that Iran was poised to send thousands of troops

and attack aircraft into Afghanistan imminently after tension between the neighbors reached breaking point.

Iranian officials were not available for comment on the report.

Iran sent some 70,000 Revolutionary Guards, paratroopers and commandos to a northeastern area close to the Afghan border last week for three days of major military maneuvers.

It said the exercises — the largest in the area either before or since Iran's 1979 revolution — were a warning to the Taleban and that the bulk of its forces engaged in them would remain in the border area afterwards.

An independent report in Pakistan said the Taleban militia had taken the unprecedented step of arming civilians in Nimroz province, which borders Iran, against possible attack from Iran or anti-Taleban fighters exiled in the Islamic republic.

The Taleban has acknowledged holding 30 Iranian truck drivers but said it was not aware of the fate of the journalist and the missing staff of Iran's Mazar-i-Sharif consulate.

Iranian newspapers said the Taleban had been prompted to free five Iranian captives by Iran's maneuvers on the Afghan border. "Undoubtedly even if the international community remains silent in the face of the savage acts of the Taleban in Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran will in no way allow its citizens to remain as Taleban's hostages," Teheran radio said.



US President Bill Clinton drives off at the first tee in a golf game against former Irish prime minister Dick Spring at Ballybunion golf club in south west Ireland yesterday. (AP)

## Clinton says 'sorry' for Monica affair

By TERENCE HUNT

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — US President Bill Clinton said for the first time Friday "I'm sorry" about his affair with Monica Lewinsky, describing his behavior as indefensible.

Less than 24 hours after a Democratic ally took to the Senate floor to denounce Clinton's conduct as immoral and urge a public rebuke, the president said, "I can't disagree with anyone else who wants to be critical of what I have already acknowledged was indefensible."

Clearly uncomfortable addressing the matter on an international stage, Clinton would not discuss the possibility of a congressional censure, saying, "I don't want to get into that."

A senior presidential adviser said White House aides had come to the conclusion that the situation was so bad that a censure was probably the best outcome they could hope for.

And Democratic leaders, fearing Clinton's legal troubles could drag down their candidates in November's mid-term elections, were talking openly about the prospect of a presidential resignation.

"If it becomes a problem for our candidates and our leadership, then he really needs to assess

where the party will be in the next two years and take a long view of what's down the road, and look at it from the party's view," said Philip Parington, chairman of the Colorado Democratic Party. "He's got the ball."

Officials said House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Democratic leader Dick Gephardt would meet next week to talk over plans to receive a report that prosecutor Kenneth Starr is believed to be preparing on his investigation.

Clinton has been grappling to satisfy demands for a sincere apology for having an affair with a 21-year-old intern and lying about it.

Friday's statement was the president's third attempt to address the matter since his August 17 address to the nation and he used new wording — even as he insisted he had said much the same before.

"I've already said that I made a bad mistake, it was indefensible and I'm sorry about it," Clinton said, questioned at a photo opportunity with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern.

It was the first time he had used the word "sorry."

The president desperately needs Democratic support to combat any evidence Starr may report to Congress on Clinton's behavior. But even senior Democrats are

distancing themselves from the president, unsure what Starr's report will say and fearing Clinton will pull the party down in November's mid-term elections.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, a former Democratic Party chairman, said Clinton's "I'm sorry" is not enough and he needs to apologize to the American people directly, perhaps in another address.

Colorado Gov. Roy Romer, the current party chairman, said Clinton's direct statement about being sorry was "helpful."

"I think he's been saying that with other words. He's had difficulty getting it out," Romer said.

The administration watched in dismay Thursday as Sen. Joseph Lieberman, a Democrat from Connecticut, said in a Senate speech, "It is hard to ignore the impact of the misconduct the president has admitted to on our children, our culture and our national character."

He said Clinton had "compromised his moral authority."

Two fellow Democrats, Sens. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska and Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, rose to praise their colleague.

On Friday, Lieberman said the president's latest comments were "a substantial step forward for him and the country. I hope the process continues."

## NEWS

in brief

### Iranian vice president to Iraq in landmark visit

Iranian Vice President Hassan Habibi will visit former foe Iraq later this month, the highest-ranking official to make the trip in two decades, an Iranian newspaper reported yesterday.

During the landmark visit, Habibi will sign agreements on the exchange of prisoners from the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War, war reparations, water sharing, border security and an end to support for each other's opposition groups, the *Tehran Times* reported. The paper did not give a date for the visit.

The two sides will also discuss the safety of pilgrims visiting holy sites in Iraq and Iran, it said. The Iran-Iraq War ended with a UN-brokered cease-fire, but animosity has persisted over a number of issues. (AP)

### N. Korea: 'We launched satellite, not missile'

North Korea denied yesterday that it launched a ballistic missile last week, saying it successfully fired into orbit its first artificial satellite, which it described as "scientific." US officials say North Korea test-fired a Taepo Dong 1 ballistic missile last Monday that flew across northern Japan and crashed into the Pacific Ocean. The first stage landed in the Sea of Japan.

A Foreign Ministry statement criticized the US and Japan for making a "fuss" over the North's launch of a "scientific satellite."

"Some people... are making a fuss, ignorant of this valuable success of science and technology," the statement said.

But the North also said that its rocket capacity can be used for military purposes and warned the US and Japan to stop any hostile moves against it. (AP)

### Americans urged to be wary of terror

The State Department said Friday that Osama bin Laden and other reputed terrorists are continuing their threats against the US and do not distinguish between military and civilian targets.

In a "Worldwide Caution," the department said the potential for retaliatory action against Americans and American interests exists following the US air strikes against Sudan and Afghanistan two weeks ago.

The announcement said the State Department takes seriously the threats from Saudi millionaire bin Laden and others. No information was offered on any specific threat. (AP)

### US 7,8-year-olds not charged with murder

CHICAGO (AP) — Prosecutors on Friday dropped their murder case against two 7- and 8-year-old boys who police said confessed to attacking a girl riding her bicycle in their neighborhood. A crime laboratory report issued to prosecutors Friday showed the presence of semen in the 11-year-old girl's underpants. Police crime experts said it's highly unlikely that boys so young could produce semen.

The charge was dropped at a brief court hearing at which the new evidence was presented. Prosecutors gave few details.

Afterward, Cook County State's Attorney Richard Devine said that the dropping of charges was "in the interest of justice."

### Brazil church roof collapses, killing at least 21

A church roof collapsed during services in the Brazilian town of Osasco yesterday, killing at least 21 people and injuring 500 more, firefighters said.

A congregation of 1,300 was in the church in Osasco, 9 miles southwest of Sao Paulo, when the roof came crashing down, firefighter Fabio Leite said.

"We are not sure why the roof collapsed. We know the building was over 40 years old and used to house a cinema," Leite said. (AP)

## Ex-Rwanda PM gets life for genocide

By MATTHEW BIGG

ARUSHA, Tanzania (Reuters) — The UN tribunal on Rwanda sentenced the country's former prime minister, Jean Kambanda, to the maximum penalty of life imprisonment over the weekend for genocide and crimes against humanity.

Presiding Judge Laiti Kama told Kambanda: "The chamber is of the opinion that genocide represents the crime of crimes which must be taken into account when delivering the sentence."

Kambanda pleaded guilty in May to a series of genocide-related crimes and crimes against humanity.

Kama described such acts as an "abomination" and "particularly shocking to the collective conscience."

The ex-premier's chief defense lawyer said his client would appeal the sentence.

Kambanda was prime minister between April 8 and July 17, 1994, at a time when an estimated 800,000 members of Rwanda's Tutsi minority and moderate Hutus were slaughtered in massacres which Kama said were sponsored by the state.

In the Hague, the chief prosecu-

tor for the Rwandan and Yugoslav war crimes tribunals, Justice Louise Arbour, applauded as landmarks both Kambanda's life sentence and this week's guilty verdict on a former Rwandan provincial mayor.

Jean Paul Akayesu, a Hutu former mayor of a Taba commune, was convicted on Wednesday on various genocide charges with a specific reference to rape. His sentence will be decided later this month.

Arbour said in a statement: "The sentencing of Jean Kambanda and the conviction of Jean Paul Akayesu are the most significant steps to date in the eradication of the culture of impunity in Rwanda and elsewhere in the world."

In sentencing Kambanda, Kama said the ex-premier witnessed killings, knew or should have known massacres were taking place, failed to protect the Rwandan population while in office and exercised de jure authority over government and army officers who directed massacres. The defendant, married with two children and a trained economist, was the first to be sentenced by the court. There are 35 other suspects indicted by the tribunal.



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# Chernomyrdin says his Russia plan only way

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Acting Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said yesterday it would take rigid discipline to implement his proposals to drag Russia out of economic crisis but there was no alternative to his "revolutionary" plans.

Chernomyrdin told Russian television a strong government was needed as soon as possible to tackle the country's problems.

"We have come to the point where there is essentially no other way out," he said. "It is a program which calls for the most rigid discipline, responsibility. But it is also a program which will remove many problems, and quickly."

Graphically illustrating Russia's pain is felt well beyond its borders, officials said representatives from the Group of Seven industrial nations would meet in London

next week and EU ministers meeting in Austria were discussing the crisis.

Russia is approaching a fourth week without a functioning government and politicians including Chernomyrdin have said money may need to be printed before "revolutionary" austerity measures are imposed.

Against that backdrop, the mood among foreign governments and financial markets has hardened tangibly.

"There will be no new money for Russia," one EU official said in Salzburg at the EU weekend ministerial gathering.

The International Monetary Fund's managing director, Michel Camdessus, warned Russia not to print more money. The former head of Bundesbank, Germany's central bank, said the IMF should

stop handing aid to Moscow.

In Moscow, politicians were busy behind the scenes ahead of round-table talks with President Boris Yeltsin and a second parliamentary vote on Chernomyrdin's candidacy for the premiership tomorrow.

The Kremlin said Yeltsin was "working on documents" at a residence outside Moscow. Yeltsin sacked the previous government last month and nominated Chernomyrdin, the man he sacked as premier just five months earlier.

Chernomyrdin declared on Friday he wanted to impose an "economic dictatorship" if confirmed as prime minister by the State Duma lower house of parliament, which is dominated by the Communist-led opposition and has rejected him once already.



Relatives of passengers of Swissair Flight 111 carry teddy bears yesterday at Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia. (Reuters)

## Cause of Swissair crash still unknown

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia (AP) — Some bugged one another, others stood alone. One woman plucked wildflowers near the base of the lighthouse, then crouched and stared out to sea.

More than 300 relatives of Swissair Flight 111 victims, their privacy protected by police and military escorts, are mourning together and visiting Peggy's Cove — the coastal town closest to where their loved ones died in the crash on Wednesday that killed 229 people.

Despite intensive efforts, including deployment of a submarine equipped with sonar, searchers have been unable to locate the plane's flight-data and voice recorders, which

could shed light on the cause of the crash.

Philippe Bruggisser, chief of Swissair's parent SAIRGroup, said in Zurich, Switzerland, yesterday morning that Canadian authorities resumed their search for the black boxes with ships and divers.

Canadian authorities said yesterday they would release the conversation between pilots and the ground station later in the day, he said.

Most of the victims' bodies have not been recovered yet, and most of the human remains retrieved so far are fragments, slowing the identification process.

On Friday, about a dozen relatives who arrived on a series of flights from New York

and Geneva made the trip to the fishing village near Halifax that has become the base for searchers.

Peter Gerety — who traveled from Connecticut to be near the site where his brother, UN worker Pierce Gerety, was killed — carried two rocks off the beach.

"I just felt like having a memento. It was such a beautiful place, and that's the irony of it," he said.

Swissair chief executive Jeff Katz said a private, non-denominational memorial service would be held yesterday for the victims. The time of the service was not provided to the media.

## 17 killed in Dagestan car bomb blast

MAKHACHKALA, Russia (AP) — A car bomb probably caused an explosion that killed at least 17 people, including two children, and gouged a five-meter crater in a street in the capital of a restive southern Russian region, officials said yesterday.

The explosion apparently triggered a hostage-taking incident later on the far northern island of Novaya Zemlya, Interfax reported.

Four sailors seized 24 students

and teachers from a school and demanded to be flown to Dagestan.

They were later arrested and the hostages freed, the news agency said.

One of the sailors had said he believed a relative might have died in the explosion in Makhachkala, the news agency said.

At least 80 people were injured in the Friday night explosion and more than half remained in hospitals, according to the press office of the regional administration of

Dagestan.

The death toll was 17 as of yesterday afternoon, the ITAR-Tass news agency said, citing the Emergency Situations Ministry.

The casualty toll was expected to rise, as NTV television said about 100 people were trapped in the rubble. The Emergency Situations Ministry initially said the explosion was caused by an artillery shell fired from an eastern suburb of the Dagestan capital of Makhachkala.

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סוכנת מכוניות



# Channel 1's new British sitcom goes off the rails

By BARRY DAVIS

**A**s *Are You Being Served?* continues to titillate with its double entendres, the latest offering from the David Croft production line is poised at the signal box and ready to come steaming into Channel 1 with *Oh, Doctor Beeching!* (tonight at 7:30).

The latest BBC offering of light-as-air comedy has its protagonists scurrying around a sleepy rural railway station in Britain in the early 1960s. All the requisite staple ingredients of the generously tried-and-tested British farce/light comedy are in full attendance.

There's a well-meaning but hopelessly disorganized stationmaster, a semi-gormless signal-box operator, who manages a tidy income on the side by using his "office" as a makeshift hair-dressing salon, a greengrocer and bicycle-repair shop, a bumbling train driver who keeps overshooting the platform, and the scruffy son of the booking clerk who simply can't get anything right.

Despite the apparent disarray of Hatley Station, all appears to be well, until an officious new stationmaster arrives on the scene. But, just as he begins introducing some semblance of order, disaster strikes.

The sitcom is based on a decision by Britain's Conservative government in 1963. Dr. Beeching was an official appointed by the then-British transport minister to make the railways more efficient, which meant cutting down a number of remote railway lines, train stations and personnel.

*Oh, Doctor Beeching!* writer (and co-producer) David Croft is the man behind such popular BBC sitcoms as *Dad's Army* and *It Ain't Half Hot Mum*. Among the cast, Brits might recognize the lugubrious countenance of Stephen Lewis, who played the sourpuss bus inspector in *On The Buses*.

To find out what becomes of Hatley Station and its delightful, if inefficient, staff in the age of Beeching, tune in to Channel 1 tonight and every evening this week.



A new stationmaster tries to bring a semblance of order to Hatley Station in 'Oh, Doctor Beeching!'

# Camerata family still looking for a home

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

**E**arlier this decade, when the rather stale local classical-music world was suddenly deluged with musicians arriving in the huge wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union, new orchestras popped up all over the country.

Some of them have folded since but others have maintained a place of respect in the local music world. The shining example of these newly created orchestras is the Israel Camerata, which was founded in 1992 in Rehovot and last year moved to Jerusalem.

In these six years the Camerata, under the music directorship of former flutist Avner Biron, has become one of the most important orchestras here. It is the only local orchestra, beside maybe the Israel Philharmonic, which tours worldwide several times a year.

Biron says the original idea was "to create an orchestra whose work method will be different. I wanted an orchestra working on details in a very thorough, in-depth way."

Today, the average local classical-music buff will tell you that the Camerata is the country's finest baroque orchestra, which is indeed true - but this is only half the truth.

"We have become known for playing baroque music, but in fact we do more non-baroque concerts than baroque ones. As my idea was indeed to concentrate on specific periods, I did start with the baroque, but then I moved to the classical/romantic repertoire and from there to contemporary music."

Yet the Camerata's main claim to fame is its choral/vocal series in which it presents classical masterpieces by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and their contemporaries. It is one of the most attractive series in Israel, and tickets for its concerts usually sell out to subscribers.

"We were the first orchestra in Israel to come up with a vocal series, and this was our entry

ticket to local concert halls," Biron says.

And now, as the Camerata enters its seventh season, Biron says "We have reached a point in which the orchestra's terminology and mine are identical. I believe that the orchestra is much



Avner Biron

better today than it was six years ago, and with very few of the original 32 musicians leaving there's no doubt that in more than one way we are indeed one happy family.

It's one of the few orchestras I know, at least in Israel, in which there is fabulous joie de vivre when they perform; music-making is still very exciting for all of us."

However, amid Biron's euphoria there are some clouds hovering above the orchestra's development.

"Above all the salaries of the musicians are so low it's embarrassing," Biron says. "I know this is true for all local orchestras, and I can only say that this indicates a land which does not appreciate its musicians or take them seriously."

Yet there is another very serious problem which needs to be resolved, and the sooner the better.

"We do not have our own hall, which means that we do not have a place to rehearse," he says. "After moving to Jerusalem, we eventually managed to secure concert dates at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall, but we are not allowed to rehearse there. We must say that the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra did not welcome us with open arms, to put it mildly."

But despite the fact that the Camerata still plays most of its subscription concerts in Tel Aviv and a few in Rehovot, Jerusalem concerts are now usually sold out and Biron is very enthusiastic about the move.

"We are relatively new in the city and it takes time to build an audience here. But we do more than give concerts in Jerusalem; we are also involved in the community. We present an extensive series of youth concerts for schools, and our programs with the Jerusalem Music Center are going to result in very exciting ventures in the future."

The Camerata is now operating under the auspices of the JMC, with Beni Galed serving as general director of both organizations.

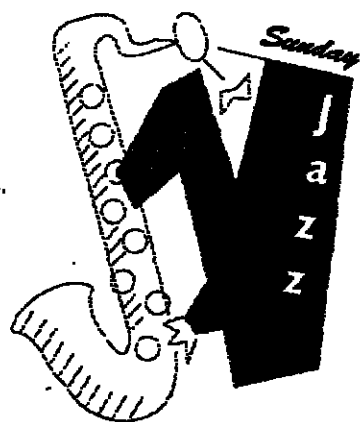
This season's opening concert of the Camerata, later this week, is obviously one of the exciting ingredients of its choral/vocal series.

However, Biron is excited about the Camerata's new series of concerts, in which the actual music playing will be enhanced by the explanatory lectures of Tomer Lev.

"I have no doubt that in the next few years our concerts will look totally different. The concert hall is changing, and we have to take that into consideration."

Avner Biron leads the Israel Camerata Jerusalem in a program of vocal music by Vivaldi and selections by Bach and Respighi Wednesday at the Wix Auditorium in Rehovot, Friday, Saturday and next Sunday at the Tel Aviv Museum, and September 14 at the Henry Crown Auditorium in Jerusalem.

## Calling all collectors



By David Isaacson

**G**ood news for collectors: The Verve Master Edition 1997 Sampler Volume 2 is free. (Samplers, or compilations put together by a CD company as a marketing tool for a new series and given to media types like DJs and journalists, are usually unavailable to the general public.) Secondly, you have to buy two from a selection of some 70 Verve discs to get your copy. Given that the selection covers new discs and Verve's reissues of its back catalog, that's not a bad deal.

### VERVE SELECTIONS

Various Artists (Helicon)

Most of the discs in the campaign boast original cover art, informative liner notes and, as they say, optimal audio clarity. The selection is mouth-watering: Several Ella Fitzgerald albums include a choice of three with Louis Armstrong (all of which, according to Helicon, are selling particularly well); Louis Armstrong Meets Oscar Peterson is one of a handful of classic early Petersons; *Charlie Parker* (from the years 1947 to 1953) is as accessible and classy an introduction to the great Bird as you're likely to find.

Of more recent vintage, Chick Corea's classic *Return To Forever* discs are a return to the Latin fusion of the '70s. There's also Latin jazz by Antonio Carlos Jobim and both Astrud and Joao Gilberto. Francophiles will appreciate the inclusion of Jacques Loussier (playing Bach), Michel Legend (appearing with a jazz who's who) and Stephane Grappelli (playing standards). If you're into vocalists, there's Al Jarreau's *Tenderness*, on which he covers a pop selection from Gershwin to Elton John, (including a duet with opera singer



'Songs for the Distinguished Lovers' is one of Billie Holiday's best discs.

Kathleen Battle on "My Favorite Things"; the velvety Mel Tormé's *Swingin' On The Moon*; and, from last year, Dee Dee Bridgewater's acclaimed *Dear Ella* tribute.

Of the series' contemporary discs, Christian McBride, Nicholas Payton & Mark Whitfield's homage to Herbie Hancock, *Fingerpainting*, is an outstanding work of modern impressionism; bassist Charlie Haden's *Beyond The Missouri Sky* and *Night and The City* are both critically acclaimed laid-back, atmospheric evocations of America; John Scofield's *A Go Go* brings '90s funk into the frame.

There are numerous collectors' moments: Ben Webster's bluesy *Soulville* includes three boogie-woogie numbers with Webster himself on piano; Oscar Peterson's *With Respect To Nat* features Peterson himself singing Nat King Cole; and, for Miles Davis fans not satisfied with the '80s rerelease of the *Ascenseur pour l'échafaud* soundtrack, complete with more outtakes than intakes, the new deluxe edition features extra pictures of Davis together with the film's star, Jeanne Moreau.

The campaign is sponsored by the Voice of Israel's 88 FM station, so tune in for lots of samples.

Jimmy Smith and Wes Montgomery (*The Dynamic Duo*) by way of rereleases from the likes of Lester Young, Coleman Hawkins and Count Basie.

The sampler's 10 cuts form an enticing introduction. Billie Holiday's five-minute gem "One for My Baby (One for the Road)" is taken from *Songs for the Distinguished Lovers* which, recorded in 1957, two years before her death, is possibly her very best disc. Similarly, "What Is This Thing Called Love?" whets the will to hear the West Coast meets East Coast double-disc summit of the saxes *The Complete Gerry Mulligan Meets Ben Webster Session*.

Ella Fitzgerald's inimitable take on "Travelin' Lite" suggests that the *Johnny Mercer Songbook*, from which it's taken, is as good as any of the 18 "Songbooks," and Oscar Peterson's *The Trio Live From Chicago* sounds like a wonderful set if the swinging "Whisper Not" is anything to go by. Jimmy Smith goes *Bashin'* (though "In a Mellow Tone") while his old pal Wes Montgomery is *Bumpin'* (in this case with a delightful "The Shadow of Your Smile.")

The irony of the free disc is its poor marketing. In place of the sumptuous packaging which surely contributed to the success of the local Hed Artzi compilation *Jazz Is: Standards*, the sampler comes in a thin envelope with no liner notes. Truly a case of don't judge a disc by its sleeve.

## Music for the average Joe (or Yossi)

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tsur

**T**he first episode of *A Sea of Tears*, Ron Cahili's well-received documentary about the development of Mizrahi music, debuted last Tuesday on Channel 2. The appearance of Cahili's documentary is just one more example of Mizrahi music's expanding place in the Israeli zeitgeist.

ONE DAY  
("YOM EHAD")  
Ayala Levy  
BM Records

As the style grows in popularity and legitimacy, people start drawing comparisons with other musical forms. In the first episode of the show, music critic Gal Ohovsky likens the development of the Mizrahi music to that of rock 'n' roll. Singer Zehava Ben weighs in with a more popular view that Mizrahi is an Israeli form of blues.

However, Cahili himself drew the best analogy in an interview about the documentary. Speaking of Zohar Argov, Cahili said that the singer essentially developed "Israeli country." The parallels between American country and western and Mizrahi music can be seen even before the emergence of Argov (whose influence, lyrics, and early death do bear a close resemblance to Hank Williams, the father

of modern country). Parallels can also be drawn regarding the general outlook of the music and its current standing in society.

However, the two styles are grounded in entirely different social/political realities. Country music was developed by members of the dominant American ethnic group, albeit members of its lowest social rung. Mizrahi, as *A Sea of Tears* stresses, was created by social and ethnic outsiders. The quest for legitimacy - which country and western has never really faced - is one of the key components of the Mizrahi musical experience, and perhaps its defining one. However, if one sets aside this ethnic and political dimension, the parallels still seem quite compelling.

Both Mizrahi and country are working-class musical styles, which echo the lives and concerns of the average Joe (or Yossi). By definition, this includes numerous songs about love and heartbreak. Both styles are native hybrids, incorporating instruments and musical styles from the "old country" (whether Ireland or Morocco). Both were influenced early on by spiritual music, church hymns in one case, *piyutim* in the other. Indeed, one finds a much larger number of religious musicians in both forms than in other styles of popular music.

Besides the similarities in their development, Mizrahi and country share a general attitude different from that of rock 'n' roll. Generally speaking, it is an attitude of showmanship instead of rebellion. Country and western and Mizrahi are musical forms whose highest goal is to please a crowd.

While many rock stars develop a pose of disdainful fame, most Mizrahi musicians are dying for it. As singer Avner Gadassi points out in *A Sea of Tears*, you can sell as many records as you want, but if

you're not on TV or heard on the radio your career means nothing.

This translates into a heavy emphasis on musicianship. Neither Mizrahi nor country fans would tolerate the sloppy arrangements and tuneless singing which characterize a depressing percentage of Israeli rock. Country music is the most popular musical format in the US, both in record sales and among radio listeners. Mizrahi music is aiming in this direction as well.


To achieve this, many Mizrahi singers are doing what many country stars have done in the last decade: softening their edges a bit and incorporating elements of rock and adult contemporary music. The success of Eyal Golan as well as Mizrahi-rock fusion bands such as Tea Packs and Ethnix seems to indicate that this goal may yet be reachable.

At the risk of stretching the analogy too far, one could say that Ayala Levy sings in the Tammy Wynette/Patsy Cline tradition of the wronged woman. On Levy's sec-

ond album *Yom Ehad* (One Day), she takes her place within the Greek-influenced wing of the Mizrahi scene. The album incorporates accordions, violins, and bouzoukis with Levy's emotive singing to create moody-but-danceable songs such as "Motek" (Sweetie) and "Mitga'aga'at" (Missing You).

The most poignant songs on the album have Levy singing about bad love, cheating men and heartbreak. This comes out sharply on the album's second track, "Achla Gever" (loosely translated, "A Heck of a Guy") in which Levy sings about an unfaithful lover and her inability to resist his gaze despite the wrong he does her.

To Levy's credit (as well as lyricists Hamutal Ben-Ze'ev and Arlette Spadiah who wrote the disc's best tracks), the protagonists on *One Day* never reach the level of cravenness of, say, *Stand By Your Man*. Their men can be jerks, but at least they do not cling to them out of fear of divorce.



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#6	7	VIA	JUBILEE CELEBRATION
#7	12	HAYEHUDIM	HAYEHUDIM 2
#8	9	ALABINA	ALABINA
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#12	NEW	VIA	FOR THE MASSES
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Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week



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## Russia's last chance

The West is now watching Russia's economic collapse with a quiet and helpless desperation matched only by that of the long-suffering Russian people themselves. Yet, as Indonesia demonstrated a couple of months ago, economic disaster can quickly turn to social tragedy, and no one, least of all Russia's leaders, should presume much longer on the patience of the people.

Unpaid wages on a massive scale have reduced many workers to virtual slave laborers. Mass unemployment in big rust-belt cities, a free-falling ruble and climbing prices have left millions of Russians without a kopeck in their pockets and forced to survive on their wits and on bartering for essential items.

The nearest historical comparison is the American mid-west of the 1930s depression, except the Russian situation today probably is worse. But what may fuel anger to dangerous levels is the insult being added to their injuries by the corrupt officials and oligarchs who have done very nicely out of the collapsed Soviet Union by buying cheaply their privileged concessions on privatized Soviet-owned ventures. Another report yesterday that thousands of new Russian companies are actually run by criminals will do little to hold at bay Russians' anger at the robber capitalism that has replaced robber Communism in their country.

But even corrupt Communism offered the Soviets full employment and life-long security. The present system offers nothing but despair. Male life expectancy in Russia has plunged to a shocking 58 years. Russia manufactures nothing the world wants to buy, the government has no income. Russia has collapsed, as many wise experts predicted it would, because its founda-

tions were so rotten they might be made of decayed wood.

Russia desperately needed a modern legal code, especially business, property and contract laws, if it ever was to stop itself being raped by the buccaneers in the lawless banking and financial houses. It didn't get them. The country needed bankers and business leaders retrained in the basic principles of transparent accounting and reporting. It didn't have them either, and the results have come back to haunt a Western system that poured in billions of dollars to shore up Boris Yeltsin and his anti-communist reformers. Now the reformers have gone down the drain along with the Western dollars they squandered, and at the moment when it most needs a powerful leader, Russia has none.

Acting prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin's only priorities now must be to head off possible social unrest by stabilizing the ruble to restore the people's faith in their currency. He said on Friday that "starting in January" the government will introduce an economic dictatorship with national enterprises forced into a position where they simply will not be allowed to default on their obligations. The pledge has a nice ring to it, but not much else.

The world has no choice but to wish Chernomyrdin well, but Russia's parliament doesn't want him, and the people see him as an unimaginative puppet of the oligarchy that got rid of Sergei Kiriyenko for daring to set up the tax-collecting system Russia needs as desperately as a stable ruble. This is a war against disaster that Russia's leaders just have to win. It is still not clear that the current leaders of government and parliament are either fully aware of the social dangers now looming, or are capable of halting the slide.

## Genocide convictions at last

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda has gone a long way to restoring faith in itself, and in the future of international justice, by sentencing Rwanda's ex-prime minister to life in prison for genocide, and convicting a former provincial mayor on the same charge.

These are the first sentences for genocide ever handed down by an international court, and the cogently argued judgments of the tribunal will set new standards for human behavior and new legal precedents for punishing abuses. (The war criminals in the Nuremberg trials were charged with murder and extermination. These trials came before an international consensus was reached, with the drafting of the Genocide Convention in 1948, on genocide as "the intent to destroy in whole or in part a national, ethnic, racial or religious group as such.")

Jean Kambanda was interim prime minister during Rwanda's 1994 genocide in which 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were massacred. The judges said he witnessed systematic killings, knew massacres were taking place, failed to use the powers of his office to protect his countrymen, and did nothing to stop officials and officers under his authority from organizing

and directing the slaughter. He was given a life sentence, the maximum the tribunal could give.

Mayor Jean-Paul Akayesu will be sentenced later for his conviction on organizing the murders of 2,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Both convictions send a clear and convincing message to criminal dictators and politicians everywhere that there are no more places where mass murders can be committed with impunity.

In a significant extension of legal protection to innocent victims of murderers, Akayesu, the Hutu former mayor, was found guilty on several genocide charges with a specific reference to rape. One international legal expert said this judgment is visionary, giving a compelling argument for concluding that sexual violence can be an act of genocide.

The most powerful message the tribunal sent was in the very act of going after such senior perpetrators. This says clearly that while the foot soldiers of genocide may also get their punishment, the godfathers and givers of orders will not fade into the privilege of obscurity. Politicians are no more free to order or commit crimes than are private citizens. It is to be hoped these genocide convictions will drive that point home loud and clear wherever it is needed.

OLEG 98



## Shutting Shas out

DAVID WEINBERG

teacher with 15 years experience will earn just over NIS 4,000 per month. As a result, experienced, better-educated teachers over 35 years of age are dropping out of the system with alarming frequency.

IS there an alternative? I'm encouraged by the horizon-broadening innovations introduced over the past few years in the 230,000-pupil state religious school network. Long-suppressed creative talents

**Creativity and a modern approach to tradition will vanquish the obscurantism and isolationism proffered by Shas**

in the modern Religious Zionist community are coming to the fore and finding expression in its school system. Over the past two years alone, religious high schools, yeshivot, and ulpanot have been established with an emphasis on environmental studies (in the Golan, Mizpe Ramon and Sussiya); the plastic arts (two in Jerusalem, Petah Tikva, Gush Etzion and Safed); music (four schools, all expanding); and programs in visual arts, filmmaking, drama and journalism in dozens of Torah-oriented schools all over the country.

This virtual explosion of esthetic, artistic studies within Religious Zionism requires explanation, for none of these fields previously has been accorded priority status in *mamlechti-dati* schools, especially when weighed against the primacy appropriately placed on Torah study.

The modern religious community has become aware that it has few artistic creations of its own that are religiously satisfying or halachically acceptable," explains Rabbi Prof. Daniel Sperber, one of the fathers of the movement towards a new world of religious

creativity. "And I believe there is great pedagogical value in utilizing these artistic disciplines in educating towards a whole religious personality."

Some of the early results are astonishing. I recently saw several films produced by yeshiva tichonit boys in grades 10 and 11. Aside from the creative endeavor, there is an admirable degree of self-criticism, self-reflection and deep spirituality evident in these youthful productions.

Behind the flowering of the new agenda in religious creativity is a small group of bold educators who quietly have moved the religious educational establishment forward: Nira Kremer, Rivka Manowitz, Rabbis Ya'acov Fogel and David Stav, Yitzhak Recanati, Revital Stern and Prof. Sperber.

Others, like Prof. Ya'acov Iram, Dr. Avigail Yinnon and Rabbis Asher Kursia and Yitzhak Kaufman have spearheaded a new, flourishing teaching focus on Judaism and democracy as complementary values.

Some of the most ardently-secular high schools have joined forces with Mercaz Harav yeshiva high schools for joint study in this regard, which I think is fantastic. And heartening. (The Shas schools aren't interested.)

The trend says one very encouraging thing about the Religious Zionist community: it is not about to ghettoize itself - contrary to some recent isolationist currents. There is a liberal sociological movement here, by which Religious Zionists are asserting that they do not want to be cut off from the secular, majority public.

On the contrary, Religious Zionists are affirming that they too seek to be artistically creative and will compete for the cultural attention of broader Israeli society - on the basis of their value system.

All of which, in the final analysis, is the best answer to the primitive lure and lore of the Shas system. Creativity, self-expression, and values education based on a modern approach to tradition will vanquish the obscurantism, isolationism and manifest bribery proffered by Shas.

## Israel's Thatchers

DANIEL BLOCH

I was wrong last week when I wrote that the yearly ritual of brinkmanship would end five minutes before the beginning of the new school year, and the government and the teachers' unions would find a way to solve their differences without prolonging the nightmare of the summer vacation for parents and children.

I made a mistake. I did not take into consideration the stubbornness of the finance minister, the weakness of the education minister and the prime minister's lack of leadership.

The situation became more complicated due to the general strike called by the Histadrut. The local Thatcherites - Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman - assisted by Arthur Finkelstein, saw an opportunity to damage the credibility, prestige and power of organized labor, by forcing them to continue what was perceived by the government as an unpopular strike.

But Netanyahu and Neeman might have gone one step too far, because, if properly explained to the public, these two separate strikes are more than justified. This time the teachers' unions and the Histadrut are fighting for the right cause - the case of the lower echelon of salaried workers who are over-worked and underpaid.

Let us examine separately the teachers' struggle and the general strike: As for the first, I have no doubt as to the full justification of the teachers' demands. Their salaries are low, both in comparison to other workers in Israel and to their colleagues abroad.

It is true that in most countries, teachers do not get special payment for extra-curricular activities, but their salaries are high enough to enable them to afford an appropriate standard of living without the need for other jobs, private tutoring or the income of their husbands.

Only those who never stood inside a classroom of 40 or more Israeli children can think that our teachers have an easy job or do not work hard. With overcrowded classes, badly built facilities - hot in summer and cold in the winter - and with no respect from either the pupils, parents, or the government, no one should envy them.

Almost everyone agreed a few days ago that their demands were justified. Even the education min-

**There cannot be a quiet labor front when there is recession and soaring unemployment**

ister supported them. But Rabbi Yitzhak Levy has a political agenda that is more important to him than the future of our education system. He can end the strike in five minutes should he so wish, by threatening to cause a coalition crisis if the agreement he reached with the teachers is not ratified by the finance minister. His predecessor, the late Zevulun Hammer would have done so.

Therefore, if you wake up this morning to another day of closer schools, you should know whom to blame.

THE case for the public sector's strike is perhaps more difficult to explain, in most part due to the Histadrut's failure in public relations. Nevertheless, the strike itself has been quite successful for a labor federation so seriously weakened after Haim Ramon's disastrous tenure at its helm.

There cannot be a quiet labor front when the economic policies of the Netanyahu-Neeman-Frenkel regime brings recession, soaring unemployment and makes the rich richer and the poor poorer, with middle-income groups suffering the most.

Public sector workers in the middle and lower ranks earn low salaries which have decreased considerably in real terms over the last two years. At the same time, private contractors, senior government and civil service officials and managers secured income hikes and bonuses, paid from the public purse.

Margaret Thatcher was here a short while ago. The Iron Lady's policies against labor unions and the working class were politically beneficial for a short while but disastrous in the long run.

It would be a great mistake were Netanyahu to continue copying her tactics. In Israel, the unions are no longer a Labor Party stronghold. The Likud faction is an integral part of the strikers' leadership. This government's own voters are among the most hurt from its economic policies that are broadening the socio-economic gap in our society.

Recession and unemployment will shorten the government's life more than the peace process and West Bank settlements. The only way open to the government is to reach a viable compromise with the unions - now, before it is too late.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### GREEK LESSON

Sir - Gerald Steinberg, in his article "Sisyphus in Lebanon" (August 28), claims that whereas Jews have "always refused to accept any situation as hopeless," the approach of the ancient Greek was "passive resignation and acceptance of the tragic situation." The message of Greek tragedies, he asserts, was that "struggle was useless."

May I remind Steinberg that at the Battle of Marathon (480 BCE) a small Greek army, far from concluding that struggle was useless, attacked and destroyed a vast

force of Persian invaders. The annual "marathons" run in cities all over the world, including Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, commemorate that victory.

Similar victories against "hopeless" odds were later won by Themistocles, Pausanias and Xenophon, among others.

Finally Alexander (334 BCE) had the temerity to march with 35,000 soldiers into the heart of the Persian Empire and destroy it, defeating an army twenty times as large.

So it was not "passive resigna-

tion" that repeatedly brought about the downfall of the ancient Greeks. On the contrary, it was their readiness to fight endless petty wars among themselves and to invoke foreign help from both distant friends and nearby enemies, against each other.

Unfortunately, this is exactly how today's Jews in Israel are imitating them.

MALCOLM LOWE

Jerusalem.

### UNFAIR RETIREMENT

Is a woman of 60 old? She would be upset to be told so. Moreover, women have a longer life expectancy than men.

Granting equality to women should free resources for all those

essential social services which are inadequately funded, and permit a more generous pension to men and women over the age of 65.

KENNETH L. COHEN

Jerusalem.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On September 6, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported at length on the continued trial of suspected murderers of Dr. Haim Arlos-woff and on the prospects of capturing a famous Arab bandit, Abu Fida, and his four-man armed gang wanted for numerous murders and other crimes. The police, who were fully armed, wore Arab costumes to deceive the gangsters and had three planes at their disposal.

30 years ago: On September 6, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported

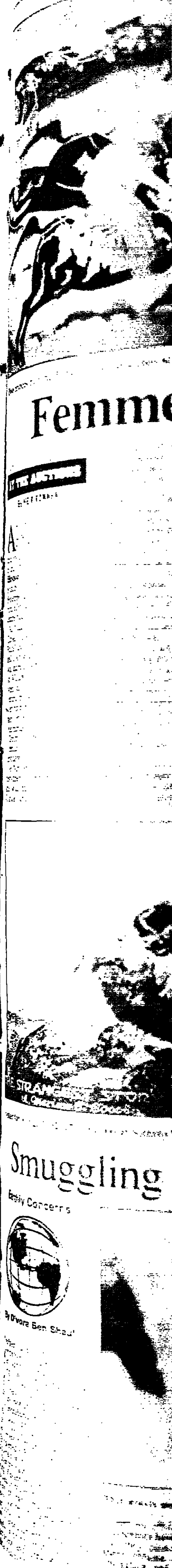
that US and French observers helped Jewish and Arab laborers to remove fortifications from Jerusalem's demilitarized area near Government House and the Jewish Girls' Training Farm in Jerusalem. Israeli, Egyptian and Arab Legion troops left this area, according to a mutual agreement arrived at by their commanders.

25 years ago: On September 6, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that police in Rome had arrest-

ed five Arabs and seized two Strela Soviet-made rocket launchers, hours before a planned attack on an El Al airliner.

One of the launchers was to be used in the attack and the second was to be held in reserve. The Soviet-made launchers found at Ostia, near Rome, were anti-aircraft missiles of a type that could be fired at a plane landing or taking off.

Alexander Zvielli



Smuggling



Shalom Ben Shalom





Two princes hunting, Bundi, India, circa 1660-80 (\$15,000-\$20,000 at Sotheby's London)



Sir Cecil Beaton: Portrait of Dorothy Hirschman, watercolor, pen and ink on paper. (\$4,000-\$6,000 at Sotheby's New York)

## Femme fatale

### AT THE AUCTIONS

An extraordinary range of antiques, paintings, jewelry, continental porcelain and objets d'art from the various homes of the late Dorothy Hirschman (1908-97), to be sold at Sotheby's New York on September 26, sums up the luxurious lifestyle of a quintessential femme fatale.

As beautiful as her friends Carole Lombard, Rosalind Russell and Constance Bennett – and a lot wealthier – Dorothy, who married John, the eldest son of William Randolph Hearst, when she was 19, went on to become the wife of two other very rich men, William Paley and her lover Walter Hirschman. After her marriage to Hirschman in 1953, Dorothy also became a major benefactor of New York's cultural institutions.

As Mrs. Paley and one of the best-dressed women in the world, she was photographed often for *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*,

where she had once worked. A society writer, David Patrick Columbia, described her as the most glamorous woman he had ever known.

However, a Cecil Beaton pen-and-watercolor portrait of Dorothy in this sale represents her as a cold and brittle young beauty (\$4,000-\$6,000). Interestingly, a look of perfect-feature coldness appears also in a modestly-priced painted terra-cotta portrait of her by Jo Davidson (1883-1952). The catalog fails to identify Davidson as the wife of famed painter Edward Hopper, a fact which may raise its modest estimate of \$1,000-\$1,500.

There are nearly 500 lots in this sale, ranging from Chinese furniture and porcelain and Regency geegaws and royal gold snuff boxes to West African chief's chairs and masks, many of the latter with exceedingly modest estimates of less than \$500. A superb Dogon mask with a tall, zigzag Brancusi-like finial has an estimate of \$2,500-\$3,500. Among the European furniture is an elegant Louis XVI gray painted *bergère en cabriolet* with light beige upholstery and padded

armrests (\$1,500-\$2,500). The paintings offered here are not the best that Hirschman owned and are pleasant rather than important. A richly colored still-life by the late Thierry Osborne is a case in point (\$3,000-\$5,000).

SOTHEBY'S NEW YORK sale of Indian and Asian art on September 16/17 has a lot of dreadful contemporary Indian painting but many quite superb examples of Ragamala and Moghul art and Jain cosmological diagrams from 16th, 17th and 18th century Rajasthan.

Lot No. 233, a Jain depiction of the world, containing both deities and animals, has an estimate of \$6,000-\$9,000. An illustration to the Ramayana showing Rama and Lashkshmana practicing archery, Mankot, circa 1710-20, has a healthy estimate of \$25,000-\$35,000. Other Gjurat and Deccan illustrations range from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

These delightful and richly colorful works are all in watercolor and/or gouache or a form of tempera.

SOTHEBY'S LONDON sale of



Poster for 'Kong,' 1932 (£700-£1,000 at Sotheby's London)

film posters and movie memorabilia on September 17 contains hundreds of fun items reeking with old-fashioned glamor.

A pre-release trade advertisement for *Kong*, drawn in 1932 by Willis O'Brien and Byron Crabbe after a work by the 19th century French illustrator Gustave Doré, is the most realistic of all the King Kong ads and posters (nobody knows exactly when the "King" was added), showing the giant gorilla peeling the clothes off a swooning Fay Wray. This printed ad, backed with paper, has an estimate of £700-£1,000.

A much more expensive historical item is a 1919 Austrian poster for *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, the first major expressionist film, which was directed by Robert Wiene and starred Werner Krauss as Caligari and Conrad Veidt as his servant. The dramatic poster

by Theo Matejko and Marcell Vertes, one of only three still extant, captures the manic energy of Caligari (£15,000-£18,000).

Want a complete and wearable moulded latex suit of a monster from *Aliens* (1986)? There's one going at this sale for £4,000-£5,000, with just a few signs of wear.

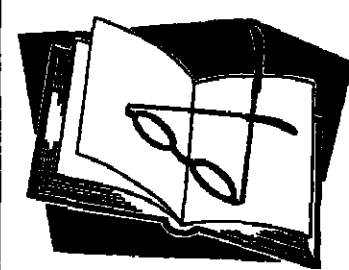
AN ECLECTIC array of antiques, furniture, jewelry, paintings and objets d'art will be offered in a two-part auction at Tiroche of Herzliya on September 11-12. Tiroche will also offer, on September 19, a large array of French wines, including Chateau D'Yquem, Haut Brion, Chateau Latour, Lafite Rothschild, Chateau Margaux, Mouton Rothschild and a dozen other notable Burgundy and Bordeaux vintages.



Poster for 'The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari,' 1919 (£15,000-£18,000 at Sotheby's London)

## Breaking the macho silence

### Book Review



By Jocelyn McClurg

In 1994, before the age of prostate inhibitors, Abraham Verghese published an unforgettable memoir called *My Own Country* about his work with AIDS patients as a doctor in rural Tennessee in the 1980s.

Verghese's bracingly honest writing about himself, and his facility with language, combined to make *My Own Country* a revelation. His was a tender, sympathetic voice in a hostile environment – as a foreigner practicing medicine in the United States, the married Verghese identified with his exiled homosexual patients, many of whom had come home from New York or San Francisco to die.

"These men whom many dismissed as sissies were, in fact, the most courageous souls I had ever met," Verghese writes in his new book, *The Tennis Partner*, a companion of sorts to *My Own Country*.

In *The Tennis Partner* (HarperCollins), which begins in 1991, Verghese has left Tennessee for El Paso, Texas, where he has joined the faculty at the Texas Tech School of Medicine.

He arrives in Texas with a sense of isolation, even though his dark skin (Verghese was born in Ethiopia to Indian parents) is less visible in El Paso than in Tennessee. His marriage to Rajani, the mother of his two young sons, teeters on the edge of disintegration.

Verghese is more than ready for friendship when it comes his way in the form of David Smith, one of his medical students and a former tennis pro from Australia. They are about the same age, in their late 30s.

A devoted fan of the game and a solid tennis player, Verghese invites Smith onto the court, ignoring Pancho Segura's advice to "never ask a better player to hit with you." Smith agrees to play, but asks a question that surprises Verghese: "You wouldn't have an extra racket I could

borrow, would you?"

The two men – mentor and student – become playing partners and then close friends, even though Verghese has yet to learn an important thing about Smith. He is a recovering intravenous cocaine addict.

The friendship between David and Abraham becomes increasingly intimate as they spar on the tennis court and go on rounds together at Thomson Hospital. Verghese finds himself deeply invested in Smith as a medical student, hoping he will follow him into internal medicine.

Smith slowly reveals more about himself – that he has been married twice, that he hasn't used cocaine in a year and a half, that he must submit to regular urine tests at the hospital, that drugs filled a vast void in his life.

But as Smith slowly unravels and Verghese fails to see the warning signs, the older doctor feels betrayed. Why isn't medicine enough for Smith, as it is for Verghese? *My Tennis Partner* is a compassionate, book about a frustrating, heartbreaking friendship between two men – fairly uncharted territory for a writer.

What is so appealing, so refreshing about Verghese's writing is his ability to portray difficult feelings without bitterness. Foreign graduates are treated as second-rate in a two-tiered medical system, he writes matter-of-factly. But nothing seems to hold back this talented, bright doctor/writer. His enthusiasm for life (medicine, tennis, friendship) is lovely.

Verghese pulls back the curtain on the clubby world of medicine, too. "I cannot help but believe that Smith's aloneness, his addiction, was worse for being in the medical profession," he writes.

Doctors are "horribly alone. The doctor's world is one where our own feelings – particularly those of pain and hurt – are not easily expressed. ... There is a silent but terrible collusion to cover up pain, to cover up depression; there is a fear of blushing, a machismo that destroys us."

In *The Tennis Partner*, Verghese breaks the silence. He makes us very much want to listen. (The Hartford Courant)

There cannot be quiet labor from when there is recession and soaring unemployment

## Smuggling animals? Beware the eco-cop

### Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

Sniffer dogs and customs employees are already familiar sights in and around airports they've been reinforced by a totally new contingent. These teams are not after drugs or arms – the contraband they are looking for includes protected birds and animals (live or dead), skins, ivory, rhino horn and even illegally imported CFCs for recharging air conditioners.

Over the past decade, the smuggling of plant and animal species, as well as museum-quality specimens of rare butterflies and moths, has become a major industry. In fact, this type of smuggling is the second largest in the world today, topping that of illegal armaments and surpassed only by drug smuggling.



This woolly monkey, found in Ecuador, is a prime target for poachers.

(Brad Clift/Hartford Courant)

Customs officials in a number of countries have readily admitted that they cannot cope with the sheer volume of this kind of smuggling, and in some cases do not have the expertise to recognize the endangered species. Most

"eco-cops," as they are being called, have degrees in biology, ecology and other related subjects. They undergo a special, rigorous course in the identification of protected species, both flora and fauna.

Another factor contributing to the need for these specialized law-enforcement officers is that the smugglers are getting more sophisticated as the trade gets more lucrative.

One shipment of more than

1,000 rare birds, including some of the rarest breeds of parrots and parakeets, was intercepted in a European city en route from the Far East. The container was labeled frozen food. The external fans were working and the external thermometer registered the correct temperature. All was, apparently, as it should be.

But inside the carefully sound-proofed container were more than 1,000 cardboard mailing tubes, each containing a live bird. The tubes were set on tightly packed shelves covered by netting. The interior was not as cold as the thermometer reading, which had been tampered with, and the cooling system had been disconnected.

A sniffer dog located the smuggled merchandise and, as is usual in such cases, at least half the birds were dead. But even so, the profit for the remaining birds would be high enough to make such smuggling well worth the effort.

Rare species of monkeys also bring high prices, as do butterflies and animal products such as skins and horn or ivory. Walrus heads (to be made into trophies) have been found in frozen-fish cases, as have complete seals for stuffing and mounting. Like every forbidden product, the rarer the species, the more lucrative the illegal trade.

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# Distancing the cell phone for safety's sake

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

It's such an obvious invention. One wonders why no one thought of it before: If a cellular phone emits harmful radiation, find a practical way to keep it as far away from the body as possible.

Ze'ev Jabotinsky, a computer expert annoyed by the hot spots the cellular phone caused on the side of his head, designed a simple device – the hard plastic and rubber Rad-Gap.

The "environmentally friendly" device costs NIS 79.90 and is glued to the receiver. Fashioned like a funnel-shaped telescope, it can be pulled out in a second as a cup over the ear, keeping the head a much-safer 4.5 centimeters away from the cellular phone. This gap, says the only grandson of the late Revisionist leader Ze'ev Jabotinsky, reduces the amount of electromagnetic radiation by 75 to 90 percent and eliminates the headaches, confusion and hot spots felt by many chronic cellular-phone users.

Patent applications for his device, sold in pharmacies and Superpharm branches, have been filed in the US and other parts of the world.

Jabotinsky, the owner of a marketing company called Tagar Computer Systems Ltd. in Timrat, near Migdal Ha'emek, hopes that the Israeli public will be concerned enough about its health to buy the device.

"If they go for it here as well as abroad and we sell a lot, we'll expand operations. If people are apathetic about this matter, continuing to use their cell phones with no gap between it and their head and not even pulling out the antenna – the business won't do well."

Jabotinsky first thought of the invention over two years ago when using his new cellular phone. "I felt a hot spot, so I held the phone farther away from my head, but then I couldn't hear well. So I intuitively made a funnel shape out of my other hand and held it between the phone and my ear; I could then hear much better."

Eureka! He went to investors with his idea for a telescoping earpiece, and the rest is history. The first Rad-Gaps – which are manufactured in England – went on sale here last week.

INITIALLY, neither of the two cellular phone companies, Pelephone and Cellphone (soon to be joined by a third, Partner), showed any interest in Jabotinsky's invention. They have consistently stated that their phones meet the toughest international standards for electromagnetic radiation, and that "there is no proof" that they cause any harm to health.

However, laboratory studies abroad have indicated that cellular phone radiation can increase

the risk of hypertension, brain tumors and other serious conditions – and no one can deny the annoying symptoms of headaches, hot spots and confusion felt by numerous users.

Jabotinsky says that some people suffer, while others don't, depending on the location of a nerve near their temple. "Some people are more sensitive, but it doesn't mean that those who don't feel these things aren't at risk."

The Rad-Gap inventor has no proof, of course, that cellular phones cause anything more than a headache, but he says people should be on the safe side.

"It could be like the situation of tobacco decades ago, when there was no scientific proof that its use was harmful – but it is. We say we're not against the use of cellular phones – they make life much easier – but instead of being part of an 'experimental group' whose health a team of epidemiologists will study 20 years from now, let's be part of the unaffected 'control group.' Then we'll know whether the radiation is dangerous or not."

It's very important, even when using the Rad-Gap, to raise the phone antenna each time you use it.

"It's known that the most radiation comes from the tip of the antenna. If you don't raise it, the tip will be close to your head, except on the tiny StarTac phone, in which the tip is at an angle far



Ze'ev Jabotinsky demonstrates his Rad-Gap: Those who don't get headaches may still be at risk. (The-Gaz)

from the head. The antenna, however, runs from the bottom to the top of the phone, and emits radiation even from the section inside the casing."

THERE have been other attempts to reduce radiation from cellular phones, such as the *diburit ishit* (personal earphone), a meter-long plastic-coated metal wire

with a tiny microphone and earphone (costing NIS 100 to NIS 300, depending on the manufacturer) that allows users to keep their phones very far from their bodies.

But Jabotinsky notes that most men who use it keep the phone attached to their belts instead of on a table when making calls, allowing the radiation to hit their internal organs, especially the liver and kidneys.

Even when on standby, the phone can emit about a tenth of the radiation it releases when a call is made. For women, the best way to use the *diburit ishit* is to keep their phones in their purses and pull them out for use, he says.

"It also isn't clear whether the metal wire in the earphone transmits radiation directly into the ear – but sensitive people say that when they use it, they have no more hot spots or headaches, so that's an indication that this doesn't happen."

Another Israeli-invented device is the Protector, a leather phone case containing metallic threads claimed to deflect radiation and selling for about NIS 160.

Jabotinsky says that there could be two problems with the case: The metal can reduce the power of the phone's connection with the cell transmitter, causing the phone to emit even more radiation; or it can focus the radiation, like a lens, on the brain.

Since local cellular-phone companies have not yet financed independent research on radiation caused by their products, it's impossible to know how many of the claims and counterclaims are true.

But it's clear that the farther away the phone is from one's body, the better.

According to the Gauss Law (named for a 19th-century German physicist), the amount of radiation drops according to the square of the distance from the source of radiation.

Thus a two-centimeter gap reduces it four times, and three centimeters means nine times less radiation.

Jabotinsky had cell phones equipped with the Rad-Gap tested by the I.T.L. laboratory in Or Yehuda, which issues international radiation standards for a variety of devices. The lab built a special device with sensors to test the effects of the Rad-Gap. I.T.L. director Alan Kleiman confirmed that use of the device reduces radiation to the user by 75 to 90 percent.

Cellcom is now examining the Rad-Gap, and Jabotinsky hopes all three cellular phone companies will offer his device as part-and-parcel of their services.

"We also intend to speak to Nokia and other manufacturers of phones about making our device an integral part of their equipment so it doesn't have to be glued to the earpiece."

## Garden of Eden's vanishing collection

By CURT SUPLEE

Get ready to say goodbye to at least one out of every known plant species on earth, now threatened with extinction or near-extinction.

The first international survey of plant diversity has reached this conclusion after assessing the results of 20 years of work by 16 organizations, including the Smithsonian Institution.

The 862-page survey shows that habitat destruction and introduction of non-native species have caused approximately 34,000 species to become so rare that they could easily disappear. That amounts to 12.5 percent of the 270,000 fern, conifer and flowering species known worldwide.

Of the imperiled species, 91 percent exist in no more than one country. These statistics, the report emphasizes, "are just the tip of the iceberg" because so little is known about many areas, and "as more information becomes available, the situation will be shown to be even worse."

In the US, which probably has the planet's best-studied flora, about 29 percent of 16,000 species are at risk, according to the report. Similar percentages were recorded for Australia and South Africa. In general, the more detailed a country's species inventory, the higher its proportion of threatened plants.

"This is the first comprehensive assessment of threatened species we've ever had," said W. John Kress, chairman of the department of botany at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. "It's a wake-up call to a major extinction event."

IN some cases, entire plant families were in trouble. For example, 75 percent of the yew family – which produces the anti-cancer drug taxol – is threatened with extinction globally.

Even familiar groups are in trouble, including approximately 14 percent of roses, 32 percent of lilies and irises, and 29 percent of palms.

Widespread extinctions might affect medical science, according to the report. More than half of all prescription drugs are modeled on natural compounds, and one-fourth are taken directly from plants or are chemically modified versions of plant substances.

"Plants have historically provided some of the most important drugs that we have," said chemist David Kingston of Virginia Tech. That list includes such celebrated staples as morphine, aspirin and quinine, as well as a number of less common drugs such as anti-cancer medica-



Beautiful, but it may be doomed to extinction – with even medical science and agriculture affected. (James Levine)

tions derived from the periwinkle.

"We've screened about 50,000 plant species so far, and gotten about 50 drugs," Kingston said, "so that's about one per thousand." The loss of 34,000 species, therefore, might doom development of 34 pharmaceuticals if the same ratio applies.

Agriculture could be affected by loss of potential new food strains and ecosystem vigor.

"There is an accumulating body of evidence indicating that as biological diversity is lost, there are changes in the way both natural and managed ecosystems function," said ecologist Christopher Field of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, "and they can often have negative impacts on goods and services. When there are more plant species present, the recovery from disturbance is faster and total production is greater."

Diversity provides a biological buffer "against things like climate change or migrations," said US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist John Fay. "Every time we lose a species of plant we're losing a unique gene pool."

To be classified as threatened, a species must have reached the point at which there are fewer than

10,000 individuals worldwide, or fewer than 100 locations in which it is found. The study examined only vascular plants – those with tissues that conduct water and nutrients – and thus did not look at algae, lichens or fungi.

The organizers said data from some parts of the world "are patchy or lacking," particularly in sections of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and South America. Thus Brazil, with 56,215 reported plant species, is listed as having only 2.4 percent of its flora threatened. The US figures from the report agree in general with a 1987 study from the Center for Plant Conservation in St. Louis, which found about 25 percent of American species in danger.

Then, as now, said Anukriti Sud, CPC's manager of conservation programs, it is difficult to quantify the significance of shrinking biodiversity. "We just don't know how important these things are," she said, "and that's what makes it so hard to say definitively that this is so terribly serious. It's going to take more of an understanding that biodiversity actually means the difference between life and death. It's something really fundamental: It's not a luxury." (The Washington Post)



Studies have shown that whites and women tend to smile more throughout interaction than African-Americans. (Karen Beazley)

## When races interact, bodies react

By BETH FORBES

In the search to understand race relations in the US, two Purdue University researchers in West Lafayette, Indiana, are finding the answers are more than skin deep.

Scott Vrana and David Rollock, both associate professors of psychological sciences, have conducted studies looking at interactions between persons of different races and genders.

In a study published in the July issue of the journal *Psychophysiology*, the two measured physical body reactions to encounters between whites and African-Americans.

They found that how the body reacts varies across genders and races. "People may think they feel comfortable with a person of another race, but their body's initial physical reaction to that person may tell a different story," Rollock says.

For instance, when any stranger enters the room, most people experience an increase in heart rate. The researchers found that when the stranger is of another race, the heart rate generally goes up more than it would if the person were of the same race.

The increase is most pro-

nounced in men, and there is one exception to the different-race rule – the presence of an African-American man sets hearts racing in both black and white men.

"We found that for white males, heart rates went up almost 10 beats per minute when a black man entered the room," Vrana says. "This is a really large change." Heart rates in this instance stayed elevated throughout the encounter.

Vrana says black males also showed a higher heart rate in reaction to other black males, though the increase was not nearly as great – only about two beats per minute. Heart rates decreased about two beats per minute in black males when the interactor was a white male.

ROLLOCK says the researchers are not certain why the sight of a black man would have such a profound effect.

"It could be that people are just not used to seeing African-Americans in some settings," he says. The researchers also suspect that stereotyping and negative media portrayals may also have an effect.

They conducted the study on the Purdue campus with 105 under-

graduate male and female students – 54 black, 51 white. Each subject was left alone in a room after being hooked up to equipment that monitored heart rate, perspiration and facial movements.

During the session, a stranger would walk into the room, introduce himself or herself and then proceed to take the participant's pulse. The person would say that they were doing it to make sure that the equipment was functioning properly. After one minute, the person would leave the room. Sometimes the interactor was of the same race as the participant, other times not.

The researchers conducted these experiments only with interactions between persons of the same sex. Different-sex pairings might have made the results even more complex to interpret, they say. In addition to heart rate changes, facial expressions were another tell-tale indicator.

Vrana says Americans are a society of smileers.

"Smiling when you greet someone is not inevitable, it's just something that we as a culture have chosen to do and train our children to do."

In other cultures, smiling isn't necessarily frowned upon, but it

certainly is not the norm.

IN the study, participants tended to follow the cultural norm and smile during the first 10 seconds after someone walked into the room and greeted them. During those 10 seconds, the smile was greater to someone of the same race.

During the next 20 seconds, participants tended to smile longer and show a greater smile to persons of a different race.

"This might represent an automatically elicited greeting response that changes over time to a more consciously controlled expression," Vrana says.

"Once people recognize that someone is of another race, they may make a conscious effort to smile at them. It may be that we are more self-conscious of how we present ourselves to people who are different from us."

After initial reactions, whites and women as a group tended to smile more throughout the interaction period than did African-Americans, who were more neutral in expression.

"Physical reactions to race are a factor and may require more study to understand," Vrana concludes. (Purdue University News Service)

## Cyber-kitchen that monitors meals for the masses



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

If keeping your family fed three times a day is sometimes an overwhelming task, think how difficult it is to prepare meals for hundreds or thousands

of people at a time. But now Tami-BestFoods, which produces and markets a large variety of food products from soup mixes and jams to olive oil and margarine, has produced a computer program to help institutional kitchens perform better.

The program, developed with the Amiga company, was unveiled at last week's Vintage '98 Festival at the Ramat Hagolan Wineries, where top Israeli and foreign chefs ran cooking classes and exhibited special dishes.

The computer program, meant for hotels, hospitals, the military and other institutional kitchens, explains how to determine the desired cost of a meal; describes different cooking styles; discusses accommodating people with requirements for low-salt, cholesterol or -sugar diets; and offers a variety of recipes that take into consideration the specific needs and financial limitations of each institution. It also aims to help the institutions monitor and control their food supplies.

Eran Tor, the marketing director of Tami-BestFoods' institu-

tional division, said the Hebrew program, which works with Windows, is the only one of its kind in Israel.

"As the manufacturer of high-quality raw materials for cooking in the modern kitchen, we believe ... in freeing the chef from basic tasks and allowing him to devote himself to creativity," he added.

### ANCIENT SOCIETY

IN MEDITERRANEAN What kind of human society existed in the Mediterranean basin 5,000 years ago? The

Hebrew University of Jerusalem is one of seven prominent research institutions participating in a European Union-financed project examining the history of early humanity in this area.

The three-year project is intended to develop collaboration between research teams working on locating, defining and interpreting traces of early human civilization. The project hopes to yield the formulation of hypotheses regarding patterns of human society from the dawn of humanity up to about five millennia ago, including social organiza-

tion, lifestyles and migrations. A major objective of the project is to train young researchers in the field.

The Jerusalem team is headed by the archaeology institute's Prof. Na'ama Goren-Inbar, whose specialty is the pre-history of the Levant.

Other institutions involved in the project, aside from the HU, are the University degli Studi di Ferrara and the Agenzia Organizzativa per i Beni Artistici e Culturali of Italy, the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle of France, the Universitat Rovira I

Virgili of Spain, the Instituto Politecnico de Tomar of Portugal and the Greek Ministry of Culture.

Participating institutions are hosting many young doctoral and post-doctoral researchers from the various countries throughout the 36-month project.

The researchers are participating in fieldwork activities, laboratory analyses, workshops, preparation of scientific reports and other academic activities. Currently, there are researchers from France, Spain and Italy working on the project in Israel.



## Doctors score low at giving bad news

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

**M**any hospital pediatricians are ill-equipped to give parents bad news about sick children—even though parents' ability to cope with tragedy is greatly influenced by the way a serious diagnosis is presented to them. So say Calanit Kie and Aharon Lerner of Carmel Hospital's pediatric department in Haifa and Kupat Holim Clalit in Bat Yam.

Writing in *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association, the two researchers note that many physicians have not been trained to communicate with parents about a child who has, for example, been diagnosed with leukemia, or a baby who was born with a physical or psychomotor defect.

Circumstances surrounding the transmission of bad news become etched in parents' minds for many years, even a lifetime; not only are the doctor's actual words important, his or her facial expression, voice and attitude also matter greatly.

The researchers found few studies on the subject either here or abroad, but those that exist found pediatricians ill-prepared for the task. It transpired that some doctors would even tell parents bad news in a hospital corridor, without their privacy or preparation.

Among the researchers' suggestions: Set aside a private room; know as much as you can about the family's functioning, education and economic situation; and speak slowly, positively—and as optimistically as possible.

After conveying the bad news, ask the parents what they have understood. Encourage them to express their fears and other emotions; explain how they can give their child emo-

tional support, and discuss how they might inform other family members. Supply information about support groups.

Studies have found that it's preferable for parents not to keep tragic news to themselves but to involve their other children, even those of elementary school age, as well as close friends and relatives. The emotional support these family members can give can strengthen the parents.

Being open with younger children hasn't been shown to increase the risk of depression or behavior problems; rather, it improves communication and closeness within the family.

### SAVING HEALTH AND MONEY

A private urgent-care clinic in Jerusalem saves the health system many millions of shekels each year by treating most of the 70,000 patients who come for diagnosis and treatment and referring only seven percent to much more expensive hospital emergency rooms.

The TEREM clinic, opened 10 years ago by emergency-medicine specialist Dr. David Applebaum in rented premises in the capital's Magen David Adom station, sees 250 patients in an average 24-hour period; they come with anything from a broken finger to serious dehydration and asthma attacks.

Now, with the closing of Kupat Holim Clalit's MARAM night emergency clinics, the facility is even more vital. The patient pays a small fee, with the rest covered by the health funds, who find it less expensive than their own emergency clinics and much cheaper than sending them to emergency rooms.

During a recent tour of TEREM, Health Minister Yehoshua Matza learned that the facility even has a nighttime gynecological clinic for pregnant women who suffer serious bleeding and other problems.

TEREM, whose staff includes specialists in emergency medicine, infectious diseases, nephrology, orthopedics and internal medicine, also has branches in Ma'aleh Adumim and Modi'in, and is considering expansion to other locations.

## Saving the old from an 'Eskimo' fate

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich recommends a new book for all Israelis who are worried about aging parents or involved in caring for the elderly

**W**hen Gershom Ekshtain's 76-year-old mother suffered a sudden stroke and he needed information on how to cope, he was told there was no one comprehensive source. So Ekshtain, a former IDF career officer who now trains retired officers for a second career, decided to research the subject and write a book himself.

The resulting 348-page, Hebrew-language volume called *Sh'ud Horim Be'Yisrael* (Caring for the Elderly in Israel), is an outstanding piece of work, sensitive as well as practical.

Sadly, Ekshtain's mother Miriam died seven months after her stroke and didn't live to read the book. The NIS 117 volume, researched over a period of two-and-a-half years, merits study by all "sandwich generation" Israelis—those who have both elderly parents and children to worry about—as well as by doctors, social workers, nurses, paramedical workers and others who care for the elderly.

The book is full of advice on how to cope financially, organizationally and emotionally when parents start the gradual slide into a situation where nursing care is needed.

Ekshtain says his company, Hechven (17 Rehov Bar-Ilan in Ra'anana, tel. 09-743-1219), which published the volume at his own expense, may translate the book into Russian. Unfortunately there are no plans to issue it in English, but immigrant organizations such as the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel would be well advised to put out at least a summary in booklet form.

ANYONE who visits a geriatric institution is tempted to look away from the helpless old people dressed and fed as if they were infants again. Interspersed among the book's facts and figures are relevant verses, biblical quotations and commentaries that help younger people empathize with the elderly as they become more and more dependent on others.

One Hebrew poem, found among the papers of an old woman in the US and hung on a door in Ra'anana's Beit Loewenstein rehabilitation hospital, is especially moving:

"What do you see, nurse, and what do you think when you look at me? An old woman, unneeded and not wise, whose movements are

unsteady, whose eyes are dim, and when she eats, the food dribbles out of her mouth. When you speak to her, you speak very loudly so she can hear, but she doesn't answer, let's you do whatever you want to her. She doesn't fight you, nor does she cooperate.

"Is that what you think, nurse? Is that what you see? If so, open your eyes, nurse, because you don't see me. I'll tell you who I am, when I sit here so quietly, standing on your order, eating at the hour you set for me.

"I'm a 10-year-old girl with a father, mother, brothers and sisters who love each other. I'm a 16-year-old, dreaming of her beloved whom she has not yet met. I'm a 20-year-old bride, my heart pinched from the size of the vows I made. I'm a young mother of 25... I'm 50, and my children have already gone, leaving me with only my husband. And the days of darkness came, and my husband passed away.

"Now I'm an old woman, and nature is cruel. Because of its tricks, old people look unbeing, their bodies are crooked, without charm. But inside this old body lives a young girl who remembers joys and pain, her whole past. I still love and live."

EKSHTAIN interviewed dozens of social workers, lawyers, nurses, doctors and other professionals while writing the book. He notes that in rural societies, where women don't work outside the home, relatives are taken care of at home until they die. On the other hand, Eskimos are sent out into the wilderness once they lose their teeth and hearing and can no longer contribute to the family's earnings.

According to Ekshtain, the modern replacement of the Eskimo tradition is the geriatric nursing institution, where patients are fed and cared for but where many deteriorate, knowing they will never return home. He says he's not sure where the old person suffers more—on the polar ice or in the geriatric institution. However, he avoids the question of euthanasia.

The geriatric patient and his family are handled by many authorities and often slip through the cracks of the health funds, the Health Ministry district health offices, the National Insurance Institute, hospitals, social workers and other public and voluntary bodies. There is little coordination among the various



Author Ekshtain sees the geriatric institution as the modern equivalent of the polar ice where aged Eskimos are sent to die, and says he is not sure where the elderly person suffers more. (Richard Nowitz)

institutions, and sometimes their requirements even conflict.

Although the National Health Insurance Law was to have transferred responsibility for geriatric care to the health funds, this has been postponed over and over, and there is no single address people can turn to.

Ekshtain ends each chapter with several pieces of practical advice: Don't be passive; fight for your rights; learn from others' experience; have professionals assess the patient's functioning objectively; feeling anger and frustration is natural; consider help from support groups; consult with a tax adviser and lawyer if necessary.

ISRAEL, Ekshtain notes, is one of the few countries in the world in which there's a law (dating back to 1959) requiring first- and even some second-degree relatives to take care of the elderly if they're

unable to do so for themselves. If the elderly person is institutionalized in a geriatric institution, relatives must disclose their income and property and contribute to upkeep if found able.

The author explains the financial issues and other pluses and minuses of caring for a relative in his or her own home. He outlines the possibilities of live-in or visiting nursing care.

The book also contains detailed charts depicting the stages in the decision-making process and the texts of relevant laws such as the Patients' Rights Law, the National Health Insurance Law and the Wills and Inheritance Law. The book even includes the procedures for when the patient dies in the hospital or at home.

Although some of those Ekshtain consulted advised against discussion of death, burial licenses, funerals, *shiva*, monuments and related

matters in the book, Ekshtain decided this was material many knew little about.

In an interview the author said that the health and welfare authorities are "overwhelmed; they just can't cope with the growing aging population."

After completing the book, the first thing Ekshtain did was purchase a geriatric nursing policy from a private insurance company for himself and his wife.

"I don't want to be a burden on the family," he declared. "You need a lawyer to help you understand the fine print, but you must consider such a policy."

He also argues for the establishment of a centralized agency that will coordinate all matters relating to those who need geriatric nursing.

"It's the obvious thing to do, but even that would be at risk of developing an uncaring and even less efficient bureaucracy."

## Near-drownings cause lifelong tragedy

By SCOTT MARTELLE

**T**he papers are full of stories about people who drown, but they don't often mention incidents of near-drowning, or the havoc they cause in the lives of the survivors.

The first time two-year-old Californian Garrett Brann fell into the family swimming pool, he was fished out in a wink—life saved, no harm done, just a precautionary night in the hospital for the toddler and a fresh lesson for his parents on the dangers of a backyard pool.

The second time Garrett slipped into the pool, on his third birthday, rescue came too late. "He was supposed to be in his room," Garrett's mother, Mieke Brann, recalled. "No one knew he was outside. Apparently, he went out to float this little plastic boat he got earlier in the day."

Thirteen years later, Garrett remains profoundly disabled, incapable of speech and motion and dependent on 24-hour nursing care at the state-run Fairview Developmental Center in Costa Mesa, California. Garrett lives, in one sense, among the forgotten.

More than 300 American children drown in residential swimming pools or spas each year, and countless others are pulled to safety without injury. However, more than 2,000 survive but require medical care for injuries ranging from minor to debilitating, according to estimates drafted by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. And, once in a while, the injuries steal almost everything but life itself.

In California, 46 near-drowning victims with profound disabilities are housed at five state-run institutions at an average cost of \$152,000 per patient per year.

THE cold numbers obscure the agony that the survivors' families endure. Morning sun fills Residence 209, a window-walled ward at the Fairview Developmental Center. Posters and stuffed animals hint at childhoods that might have been.

Six people live there, and all suffer from severe brain damage, their beds surrounded by the medical props that help keep them alive. Metal racks to hold IV medications, and the bags of liquefied food pumped directly into the stomach through tubes stand gleaming in the bright light. The center of the room holds a massive, waist-high bathing platform for the daily wash down.

Two of the patients—Garrett, and Vincent Pastorelli, age seven—are near-drowning survivors, among five such patients at Fairview. Both boys require a constant schedule of special care in a ward they probably will leave only when they die. That might not be for many years, but prone to pneumonia and other infections, the boys' life expectancy is shortened. Neither can speak or control motion.

Garrett and Vincent were both resuscitated well after their brain cells began dying, leaving them with severely diminished mental capabilities and bodies that have all but shut down.



Resuscitation attempt after rescue from the water—if brain cells have already begun to die, the prognosis can be dire. (Werner Braun)

Human growth is brain-directed, and because the boys' brains no longer function properly, neither boy has developed in accustomed ways. Their spines curve; their teeth jut at odd angles; their joints, further disrupted by lack of use, separate with ease. Both children suffer from dislocations, including hips and knees, that doctors cannot repair without painful surgery that has only temporary results.

To reduce the physical stress of breathing and the chance of inhaling their own vomit, doctors performed permanent tracheotomies, so they breathe through tubes inserted in holes in their throats.

No one knows the level of their mental or emotional development, as they cannot respond enough to show it. But both boys smile, laugh, and respond to the caresses of their caregivers and visiting relatives.

MUNICIPAL and county building codes require that pools be fenced and spas have covers, and most also require that access from within the house be restricted by self-closing and self-latching doors, and in some cases alarms. But the key factor—attentiveness—isn't the kind of thing that can be legislated.

"Once someone feels that they are absolutely waterproof, because the child had swimming lessons or for whatever reason, their guard is down," said Mary Marlin, a drowning-prevention consultant to Children's Hospital of Orange County. "And when your guard is down and something is not in place, the water wins."

Joseph Brann ascribes Garrett's accident to a convergence of the improbable. They had a solar cover for the pool, but the motor that positioned it was in the shop for repairs that day. Garrett wasn't where everyone thought he had gone—upstairs to his room. And someone during the birthday gathering that day had left a door to the pool area unlocked. Brann was mowing the lawn and made a turn from the side yard to the back yard when he spotted his son at the bottom of the pool. He dove in, pulled the boy out and got him breathing while his wife phoned for help.

"I cannot imagine a worse situation to go through," said the father, who was a police officer when the accident occurred. "Losing a child, even though he is still physically present—but losing him in every other sense—is the worst thing that can happen to a parent. It's been hard, and that's an understatement."

(The Los Angeles Times)

## When some children are more equal than others

### COMMENT

**I**magine this: Your doctor has just diagnosed your child with a curable illness. But before prescribing the needed medication, he politely asks you for the child's IQ. You are outraged.

"This is blatant triage!" you shout. "You took the Hippocratic Oath to practice your art 'with purity and holiness' and 'for the benefit of the sick'—all the sick. How can you determine that one patient should get priority over another?"

This scenario sounds like fiction—but some of the most respected doctors practice discrimination against children with disabilities. Triage of the mentally disabled is so widespread and entrenched that we hardly notice it, let alone denounce it.

Several weeks ago, the High Court denied the parents of a terminally ill eight-year-old the right to disconnect him from the equipment that is keeping him alive. Newspapers reporting this decision mentioned, incidentally, that "because of his retardation, it was clear the boy was not a candidate for a kidney transplant, since there is a shortage of organs."

While this point of view may be crystal clear to some, there are those who cannot fathom why a retarded eight-year-old should be less entitled to a place on an organ waiting list than a cognitively normal child. Some are disturbed by the fact that a patient's intellectual capacities can determine the standard of medical care he or she receives.

These people would probably be troubled by a leading Jerusalem pediatrician's assessment of "a tendency among doctors treating severely mentally and physically handicapped children to adopt a hands-off approach... to let the condition run its course."

Furthermore, the High Court's decision to maintain life support without demanding other necessary medical treatment can be viewed as cruel and insensitive to the boy's suffering.

The Illinois mother of a 26-

year-old mentally retarded man diagnosed with lymphatic cancer was advised by his doctor not to attempt treatment because her son's "quality of life was diminished due to his disability."

But her response was, "Karl likes his life, and should have the same chance to live it as anyone else." She and her husband encouraged their son to undergo chemotherapy; today, eight years later, he is alive and well.

Doctors are not alone in discriminating against the mentally handicapped.

Physical and occupational therapies are doled out most generously to cognitively normal children. Some programs actually test applicants before accepting them. Presumably, chances of success are higher among normal children, and who wouldn't prefer impressive rather than middling results?

But another factor is the feeling that the mentally retarded, who are often also physically disabled, are not as needy or deserving of our sympathy and resources as the disabled but intellectually normal.

The mother of a two-year-old, bemoaning the paltry number of therapy hours available in Israel for her mentally and physically afflicted child, was told by a psychologist at a center for child development in Jerusalem: "Well, if you think that's bad, just consider the children who will eventually be able to function normally but have a six-month wait before they can begin speech therapy. Now, there's a real tragedy."

A more blatant expression of this discrimination can be seen at the Jerusalem day-care center that receives the city's most severely mentally and physically disabled. There, children under the age of two are denied physical therapy entirely, while the older children

are given minimal therapy hours. In the face of clear, undisputed evidence that early intervention is highly effective in improving functioning levels, the center's practice is baffling.

The practice of triage is particularly disappointing in a society based on Jewish ethics that equates the salvation of one life—any life—with the salvation of an entire world.

We appear to have forgotten that even our most needy children are blessed with some intrinsic value, be it in the love they give and take from their parents, or in the lessons about life and values they can teach others.

Can we ever retrieve those biblical ethics? Can an attitude so deeply entrenched as this triage ever be uprooted?

The inroads made by Down Syndrome children should demonstrate that attitudes can change relatively quickly, and that such changes can dramatically affect the functioning of the children themselves. Less than a decade ago, many Israeli parents were still abandoning Down Syndrome newborns immediately after birth. A spokesman for Yated, the voluntary association for Down children, recalls that there used to be 30 to 40 abandoned Down babies at any given time.

In the last seven years, this number has shrunk to a mere handful. Furthermore, Yated notes, the few children rejected by their biological parents are now getting adoptive families very easily.

Seventy families here have adopted Down Syndrome children. As a result, the Down population is making strides that were never dreamed possible, and their progress ought to herald further dramatic changes in attitude toward the general retarded population.

Sitting back and enjoying the status quo is a dangerous option. Triage is a slippery slope. Our doctors may deny a severely retarded boy a kidney today, and tomorrow hold back on a dyslexic child or a hyperactive one.



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## US stocks drop in seesaw session

## Wall Street

A late burst of bargain-hunting halted a sharp decline for the second straight session Friday as Wall Street saw a volatile, bruising week. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 41.97 points - or 0.5 percent - to 7,640.25 after charging back over the final half hour from a 186-point slide.

While it was the third straight losing session, today's finish represented a sharp improvement from earlier in the week.

The Dow plunged 512 points on Monday and fell as low as 7,400 on Tuesday before a sharp turnaround left it with a gain of 288 for that day. The blue-chip barometer pulled back on Wednesday and Thursday, losing a combined 145 points.

There were more signs of the Asian crisis weakening the US economy, which could further the case for the Federal Reserve to soon lower interest rates - a move that would help prevent further economic slowdown.

Financial companies took another beating amid worries about their loans to the crisis-plagued economies in Asia and Russia. Chase Manhattan and Citicorp posted hefty losses, while American Express, J.P. Morgan Travelers Group led the Dow's decline again.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 8.37 to 973.89, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index fell 5.34 to 1,566.52.

Declining issues barely outnumbered advancing ones on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,489 up, 1,528 down and 501 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 777.63 million shares as of 4 p.m., down from 874.48 million on Thursday, but bringing the week's total to a record 4.677 billion, blowing past the previous mark of 4.016 billion was set last October.

The NYSE composite index fell 3.58 to 486.31, and the American Stock Exchange composite index rose 4.01 to 602.71. The Russell

## STOCKS

Dow Jones 7640.25	-0.55%
FTSE 5167.1	-0.54%
Nikkei 14042.91	-1.53%

2000 index of smaller companies rose 0.78 to 347.07.

US markets will be closed tomorrow for the Labor Day holiday.

## Europe

European bourses staggered to a modest rebound in jittery trade on Friday.

Concern that economic weakness in Asia and Russia would further erode Latin American markets, where shares sank overnight, overshadowed jobs data confirming the US economy remained healthy in August.

Dealers said a morning recovery in European stocks, after Thursday's heavy losses, was mainly technical as traders closed out positions before the US bank holiday weekend.

They said markets remained cautious ahead of the Russian Duma's vote tomorrow on whether to approve acting premier Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister.

"It's a typical bear market. You'll see the FTSE go ahead 20-30 points one day and then take a big hit the next," said one dealer in London.

European stock markets started strong but later lost much of their gains as New York markets failed to hold onto an opening rise. London's FTSE-100 index closed up just under one percent, despite

## the jittery start on Wall Street

Frankfurt's dollar-sensitive Xetra DAX index was at one point up as much as 140 points, before retreating to a 67 point rise, after a three percent rout on Thursday.

The Russian rouble slid again to 16.99 to the dollar, sharply down from Thursday's 13.46 level.

The Communist-led Duma lower house of parliament postponed until tomorrow a vote on the nomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin's nomination as Russia's new prime minister, after President Boris Yeltsin offered crisis talks.

## Asia

Stock prices in Japan were dragged down by Wall Street's hefty overnight decline, the official outlook on corporate profits and the liquidation of Toa Steel Co. - Japan's biggest manufacturing failure since World War II.

Taiwanese stocks rallied on new market stabilizing measures.

In Malaysia, the Composite Index was at 363.44 points, up 16.1%, it has risen 38% since Tuesday, when the measures were announced.

Dealers said local funds, retail investors, domestic corporations and short-term players all poured money into equities, expecting these measures to boost liquidity and drive down interest rates.

To insulate the bleeding economy from regional ills, the Malaysian government said its currency, the ringgit, will have no value outside the country after October 1, and it placed immediate restrictions on foreigners' use of the currency in transactions and exchange. It set a value of three ringgit to the U.S. dollar for use inside the country.

It also effectively banned foreign trading of its country's shares.

In Japan, the Nikkei average of 225 selected issues fell 218.33 points, or 1.6%, to close at 14,042.91, after a 115.38-point fall Thursday. (AP, Reuters)

## Dollar falls against most currencies

NEW YORK (AP) - The dollar sank Friday to a nearly 4-month low against the Japanese yen and edged down to another 9-1/2-month low against the mark in trading that slowed as the day went on.

The dollar dropped to 133.57 yen, down from 134.70 yen late Thursday. That is its lowest point since 132.75 yen on May 11.

It also fell to 1.7304 marks, down from 1.7309 marks a day earlier, to reach its lowest level since 1.7294 on November 19.

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## DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shazze Zadek (internal), ENT; Eilat Holim (surgery); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics, obstetrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology).  
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Netanya: Laniado.

**POLICE 100**  
FIRE 102  
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## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
Currency (deposit for)	4.770	4.800	5.090
U.S. dollar (\$200,000)	5.550	5.540	5.820
Pound sterling (£100,000)	2.180	2.280	2.580
German mark (DM 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.580
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)			
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

## Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (3.9.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	4.1132	4.1796	—	—	4.1455
U.S. dollar	3.8123	3.8738	3.74	3.93	3.8380
German mark	2.2016	2.2372	2.16	2.27	2.2235
Pound sterling	6.4039	6.5072	6.29	6.60	6.4649
French franc	0.6587	0.6573	0.64	0.68	0.6628
Japanese yen (100)	2.8067	2.8520	2.75	2.90	2.8321
Dutch florin	1.9502	1.9817	1.91	2.01	1.9700
Swiss franc	2.6781	2.7213	2.63	2.76	2.7076
Swedish krona	0.4839	0.4918	0.47	0.50	0.4871
Norwegian krone	0.4936	0.5016	0.48	0.51	0.4961
Danish krone	0.5781	0.5875	0.56	0.60	0.5823
Finnish mark	0.7237	0.7354	0.71	0.75	0.7306
Canadian dollar	2.4876	2.5278	2.44	2.57	2.5011
Australian dollar	2.1968	2.2323	2.15	2.27	2.2040
S. African rand	0.6124	0.6223	0.55	0.63	0.6185
Belgian franc (10)	1.0673	1.0846	1.04	1.10	1.0775
Austrian schilling (10)	3.1291	3.1796	3.07	3.23	3.1603
Italian lira (1000)	2.2286	2.2646	2.19	2.30	2.2513
Jordanian dinar	5.3543	5.4407	5.28	5.65	5.3924
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.08	1.18	1.1514
ECU	4.3381	4.4081	—	—	4.3813
Irish punt	5.5240	5.6131	5.42	5.70	5.5762
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5904	2.6322	2.54	2.67	2.6162

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Help line for English-speakers - Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. M.Lev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-1111.

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The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Eran - Emotional First Aid - 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic); 08-634-0789; Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children); 546-0739; Rishon LeZion 03-958-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic); 867-2226; Beersheva 07-649-4333; Netanya 03-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic); 958-3444; Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadassah 03-634-0789; Nazareth (Arabic): 06-845-4222.

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# Rafter, Ivanisevic move into 4th round

## US OPEN TENNIS

NEW YORK (AP) — His game again coming together at just the right time, defending champion Patrick Rafter easily moved into the fourth round at the US Open yesterday with a 6-1, 6-1, 6-1 victory over South African David Nainkin.

The third-seeded Rafter, who needed only 66 minutes to eliminate Nainkin, dominated in every phase of the game. The Australian made only seven unforced errors to go along with 28 winners. Nainkin, a qualifier, had eight winners and 23 unforced errors.

Rafter, a surprise winner a year ago when he was the 13th seed, came into this year's Grand Slam tournament after winning five tournaments. With Rafter taking control in every way, Nainkin didn't have a chance in a match that opened the day's proceedings at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Hard-serving Goran Ivanisevic needed a little longer to win his 4-2 round match. The Croatian left-hander beat Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands 7-6 (7-5), 6-3, 6-4 in 1 hour, 49 minutes.

Two seeded players also moved into the fourth round in the women's singles.

No. 5 Venus Williams advanced when Larisa Neiland retired after five games with a bad back, and No. 13 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa overcame Barbara Schett of Austria 3-6, 6-0, 6-3.

Neiland, a doubles specialist from Russia, was in pain almost from the beginning of the match. She never moved from the baseline when Williams would hit a drop shot, and she would stand and just watch whenever the ball was hit close to the sideline.

During the changeover following the third game, Neiland asked for a trainer. After dropping her



SERVING IT UP — Defending champion Patrick Rafter serves to South African David Nainkin during yesterday's action at Flushing Meadow.

serve for the third time, giving Williams a 5-0 lead, WTA Tour trainer Liz Chaffin quickly

examined Neiland's back. "I can't still play," Neiland said, plaintively.

She then went to Williams and shook hands. "Are you OK?" Williams asked. Neiland just dropped her head and walked off the court.

## FRIDAY'S ACTION

On Friday, French Open champion Carlos Moya climbed back from the brink of elimination, overcoming three third-set match points to beat former French Open champion Michael Chang in a marathon five-setter.

Moya, the 10th seed, avoided becoming the only man's seed to fall on the fifth day of the championships by fighting off three match points when trailing 4-5 in the 10th game of the third set and battling on to defeat Chang 3-6 1-6 7-6 (7-5) 6-4 6-3 in the final second-round match of the men's draw.

The Spaniard, who had never before come back from a two-set deficit, cashed in the only break point he had in the fifth set, to go ahead 5-3, and then closed out the three hour, 49 minute match in the next game when Chang sent a backhand service return long.

Moya joined second seed Marcelo Rios, former Wimbledon champion Richard Krajicek (5), French Open runner-up Alex Corretja (7), Yevgeny Kafelnikov (11) and Tim Henman (13) in advancing to the third round.

The women's seeds in action all also advanced with one lone casualty, as 14th seed Dominique Van Roost of Belgium fell to American Kimberly Po 6-4 6-2 in a third-round match.

There was not much intensity until a dramatic final two games that left Irina Spirlea pumping her fists and Serena Williams walking dejectedly to her chair.

In what promised to be a grudge match but turned into an exhibition of mostly mundane tennis, Spirlea defeated Williams 6-3, 0-6, 7-5 to reach the fourth round.

Spirlea had collided with Serena's older sister, Venus, during a changeover while losing in the semifinals last year.

The incident led Spirlea to curse Venus Williams after that match, and Richard Williams — the father of Serena and Venus — to label Spirlea "a big, tall white turkey." Richard Williams also said at that time that Spirlea "ought to be glad it wasn't Serena she bumped into. She would have been decked." But there were no fireworks or fist-fights Friday night. The players carefully avoided each other on changeovers, though they exchanged only a perfunctory handshake after the match.

Spirlea's next opponent will be No. 3 Jana Novotna, a Wimbledon champion no longer burdened by past failures. As she wins, Novotna finally is doing something that once seemed so remote — having fun.

Novotna, who beat Sandrine Testud 6-2, 6-3 to reach the fourth round, until this summer had been known mostly for defeats in Wimbledon finals in 1993 and 1997 in which she squandered big leads.

Top-seeded Martina Hingis faced a familiar predicament against Amelie Mauresmo, and came up with a familiar response. Down by a set against Mauresmo for the second time this summer, the world's top player again ran off an impressive streak to reach the fourth round. The top-seeded Hingis, who had not lost a set in the US Open since 1996, rallied to defeat Mauresmo 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Also advancing with little trouble to the fourth round was No. 6 Monica Seles, who won 6-3, 6-3 over Annie Miller. Steffi Graf reached the fourth round with a 6-1, 6-1 victory in 43 minutes over Mirjana Lucic in which she won nine straight games. Graf,

# Pescariu, Rosset miss ill-fated Swissair flight

BUCHAREST (AP) — But for an unexpected loss at the US Open, Romanian tennis star Dinu Pescariu would have been on the Swissair flight that crashed in Canada, killing all aboard, a Bucharest newspaper reported Friday.

Pescariu was defeated Monday by Dutch player Jan Siemerink 6-4, 6-3, 6-0, and left the US a day earlier than planned and returned to Romania.

"I haven't gotten over the shock," Romanian tennis federation official, Alexe Bardon, told the newspaper National.

Bardon said Pescariu had asked him to reserve a ticket on the Wednesday evening Geneva-bound flight.

"Pescariu should have been on the Wednesday evening flight," he told the paper. "Who knows why, he got a ticket a day earlier. Maybe it was meant to be."

Pescariu, who has made no comment, was reported as being in a state of shock.

Pescariu was not the only tennis star who was supposed to have been on the Swissair flight SR111.

Swiss tennis star Marc Rosset and his coach were booked on the flight. But Rosset changed his reservation at the last minute.

"But when we were in the hotel, Marc said he wanted to stay an extra day after all," his coach Pierre Simolo said. "I will be eternally grateful to him," he told the Swiss sports agency.

# Leicestershire take over at the top

LONDON (Reuters) — Leicestershire, the 1996 champions, swept to the top of the county championship for the first time this season after beating Warwickshire by 73 runs at Edgbaston on Friday.

The win took them five points clear of long-time leaders Surrey. They stumbled to a 164-run defeat against Yorkshire at Headingley, Gavin Hamilton finishing with a career-best match haul of 11 for 72.

Leicestershire's triumph was delayed by David Hemp's 102 before Warwickshire were finally dismissed in their second innings for 331.

David Mills finished with four for 60 as Leicestershire bagged a maximum 24 points.

In contrast, Surrey added only

four points to their tally as they were shot out second time around for just 135 by Yorkshire.

Chris Silverwood took five for 30 and Hamilton four for 22.

Rain at Taunton forced Somerset's game with Worcestershire to be abandoned as a draw.

County Championship									
	P	W	D	BT	BT	Pts			
Leicestershire	15	9	0	6	39	43	244		
Surrey	15	9	0	6	35	54	239		
Gloucestershire	15	9	1	5	39	48	233		
Warwickshire	15	9	5	1	19	57	223		
Yorkshire	15	7	3	5	41	55	223		
Sussex	15	6	5	4	30	55	183		
Hampshire	15	6	4	5	27	53	191		
Warwickshire	15	5	7	3	22	54	175		
Kent	15	5	3	7	18	51	170		
Somerset	15	5	6	4	27	46	165		
Derbyshire	15	5	7	3	24	47	160		
Gloucestershire	15	3	6	6	35	49	150		
Durham	15	3	7	5	29	57	145		
Worcestershire	15	3	6	6	28	51	145		
Nottinghamshire	15	3	8	4	18	52	131		
Northants	15	2	5	8	29	44	129		
Essex	15	2	7	6	28	44	122		
Essex	15	2	8	4	14	50	108		

# Yankees fastest to win 100 games; Sosa cracks 57th

CHICAGO (AP) — The New York Yankees reached 100 wins on the earliest date in major league history as Bernie Williams homered twice Friday night in an 11-6 victory over the Chicago White Sox.

By reaching No. 100 on September 4, the Yankees accomplished the feat five days earlier than the 1906 Chicago Cubs and the 1954 Cleveland Indians.

The '06 Cubs set the major league record for the fastest games to reach 100 victories (132). The Yankees (100-38) set an AL record, doing it four days earlier than the '54 Indians.

If the Yankees go 17-7 or better during the rest of the season, they would break the AL record of 111 wins set by the '54 Indians and the major league record set of 116 set by the '06 Cubs.

With the Yankees trailing 4-3 in the eighth, Chuck Knoblauch reached on an infield hit, stole second and scored on Derek Jeter's single off Chad Bradford (2-1).

After Bill Simas relieved, Jeter stole second and raced to third on catcher Chad Kreuter's overthrow. Williams' 23rd homer made it 6-4 and Tino Martinez followed with his 25th homer. It was the eighth multihomer game for Williams.

Indians 10, Tigers 2  
Charles Nagy beat host Detroit again with a five-hitter and Manny Ramirez and Travis Fryman hit three-run homers for Cleveland.

Richie Sexson also homered as the Indians won for the fifth time in six games. The Tigers have lost three straight, 25 of 32 and are 1-3 since Larry Parrish became interim manager when Buddy Bell was fired Tuesday.

Nagy (13-9) has won three straight starts and improved his career record against Detroit to 15-4, his most wins against any club.

Blue Jays 12, Red Sox 1  
Jose Canseco hit a three-run homer and Shawn Green had four hits as host Toronto won its eighth consecutive game.

After winning the first two games of the four-game series, the Blue Jays are within seven games of the Red Sox, the AL wild-card leader. Toronto would pull within five games with a sweep.

Green tied a career high with the four hits, capping his night with an eighth-inning homer off Carlos Reyes. It made Green the first Toronto player ever with 30 homers and steals (32).

Pat Hentgen (12-10), who missed his previous start due to tendinitis in his right shoulder, allowed just one run and four hits in 6 1/2 innings. Dave Stieb pitched 2 1/2 innings for his second save of the season and third of his career.

Tim Wakefield (15-7) was pounded for eight runs — six earned — and eight hits in 6 1/2 innings.

Rangers 9, Twins 3  
In Arlington, Will Clark drove in four runs and Juan Gonzalez bettered his club record single-season RBI mark.

Clark had a two-run single in the third and a two-run double in the sixth to extend his hitting streak to 3 games with a 3-for-4 night.

## Friday's Roundup

Gonzalez, the major league RBI leader with 146, was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in a five-run third, and added an RBI double in the eighth.

Gonzalez surpassed his own team record of 144 RBIs set in 1996, and extended his hitting streak to 15 games.

Royals 5, Angels 3  
Dean Palmer collected his third RBI with an eighth-inning single that tied the game and pinch-hitter Terry Pendleton singled home the go-ahead run in the ninth as Kansas City won on the road.

Ricky Bones (1-1) struck out two in a perfect eighth inning for the win and Jeff Montgomery got the last three outs for his 32nd save in 36 chances. Mike Holtz (2-2) took the loss.

Orioles 10, Mariners 1  
Visiting Baltimore snapped its longest losing streak in over 10 years with a six-run fourth inning.

In eight strong innings, Juan Guzman (9-14) pitched the Orioles out of a 10-game slide. He allowed the run and five hits with three walks and nine strikeouts.

Lyle Mouton, Cal Ripken Jr. and Chris Hoiles all belted home runs in the fourth. It was the fourth time this season that Baltimore has homered three times in one inning.

The Orioles' slide, which dropped them out of contention for the American League wild-card spot, was their longest since a 21-game skid that began the 1988 season.

Devil Rays 5, A's 2  
Cuban right-hander Rolando Arroyo and two relievers combined on a five-hitter as Tampa Bay beat host Oakland for the sixth straight time.

Arroyo (13-11) matched a major-league record for most wins by an expansion team pitcher. Gene Brander won 13 games for the 1969 Seattle Pilots and Dave Lemanczyk matched that with the

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yankees	100	38	.725	—
Toronto	91	58	.553	19 1/2
Boston	75	64	.532	24 1/2
Tampa Bay	70	70	.500	31
Seattle	55	85	.393	46
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	78	62	.557	—
Chicago	65	75	.464	13
Kansas City	64	76	.457	14
Minnesota	62	78	.443	16
Detroit	53	88	.376	25 1/2
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Anaheim	77	64	.546	—
Los Angeles	75	65	.536	1 1/2
Oakland	64	77	.454	13
Seattle	63	76	.453	13
Y-clinched playoff berth				

WILD CARD STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	81	58	.583	—
Texas	75	65	.536	8 1/2
Toronto	75	66	.532	7

Thursday's AL results: Minnesota 5, Tampa Bay 4 (1); Cleveland 2, Detroit 1; Toronto 4, Boston 3 (1). Thursday's NL results: Arizona 1, Pittsburgh 0; Milwaukee 7, Colorado 3.

1977 Toronto Blue Jays.  
NATIONAL LEAGUE  
Reds 3, Cardinals 2

While he's Mighty Mac against the rest of the NL, Mark McGwire is a big zero against the Cincinnati Reds.

McGwire remained at 59 homers, going 0-for-3 with a walk in St. Louis's home loss.

He's homered against every other NL team, but doesn't have a single RBI against the Reds this season.

By changing speeds, Pete Hamisch (11-6) got McGwire to fly out to right in the first, then struck him out in the third and walked him in the fifth, loading the bases.

Scott Sullivan struck out McGwire on three pitchers to end the seventh, making him look like an ordinary hitter with a two-strike slider low and away.

The largest crowd at Busch Stadium this year, 48,076, stood and cheered every McGwire at bat, flashbulbs popping on each pitch.

Cincinnati is 7-0 against St. Louis this year, exercising extreme caution against McGwire, walking him 12 times. He's 2-for-16 against the Reds this season, and against Hamisch he's 2-for-10 in his career with one homer — that back in 1989.

Cubs 5, Pirates 2  
Sosa broke Hack Wilson's Cubs record with his 57th homer and driving in the go-ahead run.

Sosa, who has now homered against every NL team this season, hit a 2-4 pitch from Jason Schmidt off a right-field auxiliary scoreboard in Wrigley Field in the first inning to break Wilson's 68-year-old record.

His homer drew a curtain call from an enthusiastic crowd of 36,510 that passed up a western Pennsylvania tradition — the first night of the high school football season — to possibly see history.

Sosa was 2-for-5 with a single, scored twice and reached base four times, the last two on errors.

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	91	59	.605	—
New York	78	63	.553	13
Philadelphia	67	74	.475	24
Pittsburgh	54	88	.380	37 1/2
Florida	47	94	.333	44
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	88	53	.624	—
Chicago	79	62	.560	9
St. Louis	67	73	.479	20 1/2
Cincinnati	66	75	.468	22
Minnesota	66	75	.468	22
Pittsburgh	64	75	.460	23
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	90	51	.638	—
San Francisco	76	65	.539	14
Los Angeles	71	70	.504	19
Colorado	65	77	.458	25 1/2
Arizona	57	85	.401	33 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Chicago	79	62	.560	—
New York	78	63	.553	1
San Francisco	76	65	.539	3

The Cubs, who have 21 games remaining, have won five straight and eight of nine to maintain their one-game lead over New York in the NL wild-card race. The Pirates lost their seventh in a row after winning nine straight.

Matt Karchner (3-0) pitched two scoreless relief innings for the victory.

Dodgers 8, Giants 5

Mark Grudzielanek and Charles Johnson each homered and drove in three runs as host Los Angeles stretched a winning streak to four for the first time this season.

Barry Bonds broke the NL record by reaching base in 15 consecutive plate appearances and is one plate appearance shy of tying the major league record set by Ted Williams in 1957.

Mets 2, Braves 1  
Mike Piazza gave Mets fans his best Mark McGwire imitation.

Piazza homered for the third straight game, a McGwire-like 485-foot shot over the left field picnic area.

New York, which had been 0-5 against the Braves this season, has homered in 10 consecutive games, hitting seven in its last three.

Al Leiter (14-5) won for the fourth time in five starts, pitching a five-hitter with two strikeouts and three walks. It was his fourth complete game of the season.

Expos 8, Marlins 0

Dustin Hermanson combined with two relievers on a three-hitter and Shane Andrews homered twice as Montreal handed host Florida its eighth straight loss.

Hermanson (13-10) allowed three hits in seven innings, striking out eight. Hermanson won for the sixth time in eight starts. He was followed by Steve Kline and Ugueth Urbina, who pitched one hitless inning apiece.

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
Boston	010 000 000-1 6 2			
Toronto	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Atlanta	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Philadelphia	010 000 000-1 5 1			
St. Louis	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Minnesota	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Chicago	010 000 000-1 5 1			
San Francisco	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Los Angeles	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Colorado	010 000 000-1 5 1			
Arizona	010 000 000-1 5 1			

Chicland	000 142 000-10 13 1
Detroit	000 010 001-2 5 1
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